



SEMAPHORE SHORT

AHOY SHIPMATES It is now less than a week until our special charity fundraising concert at the Guildhall in Portsmouth, featuring Fisherman's Friends, the Band of HMS Royal Marines Collingwood and the RNA Community Choir. But the final encore on Wednesday evening will be just the start for the Choir, which will be expanding nationwide in the coming months – so if you would like to be part of the story, contact Jon Everett on wws@rnassoc.org for more details of activity in your area.

SPECIAL READING Reading Force is holding an evening of celebration and commemoration on Tuesday 11 November (6-7.30pm) at Prince Consort's Library, Aldershot, featuring Reading Force patrons Dame Penelope Keith, Janet Ellis and trumpeter Ben Tugendhat. Dame Penelope and Janet will read from a selection of poetry and prose. The evening is free but a retiring collection will be held. For details of the event and to register for tickets see [here](#), and for more on Reading Force see [here](#).

CARDS AND MORE If your idea of Christmas could incorporate a donkey in an RNA beret, then we have just the thing for you! RNA Christmas card packs are available from [our webshop](#) in packs of ten (each pack has two designs) for £4.50 including postage. Our 2026 slim Diary is also on sale (£7 inc postage), as well as the RNA hanging gingerbread sailor (£9).

FIRESIDE CHATS Our next Fireside Chat is on Monday (20 October) when Cdr Dickie Barton presents 'The Battle of Trafalgar – the other bits!' 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.

CAN DO Finally, the long-awaited RNA Anniversary Pale Ale and Pilsner Lager from the Powder Monkey Brewing Company are here! It's the perfect gift for Christmas or as a take-along to parties. And just to add to the good news, shipmates can use RNA 15 (a 15 per cent discount) which can only be accessed via the dedicated QR code (right). Cases of 12 cans are available at this special discounted price. Note that this offer will end on 17 November.



TEE TIME Prior to the National Conference 2026 in Salford the annual RNA Golf Championships will be staged on Friday 12 June at Worsley Golf Club (details to be confirmed). If you are a golfer and wish to take part please join the [RNA Golfers Facebook page](#) so plans can be updated. Also note that the Bearsted Golf Club Remembrance competition is on 10 November near Maidstone, Kent. The format is individual Stableford, and the cost (including lunch and prizegiving) is £40. This offer is on a first-come first-served basis and replies, including full name, home club, WHS Handicap number and team representation (Bearsted member, blue light services or Armed Forces) should be emailed to manager@bearstedgolfclub.co.uk as soon as possible.

SOFT OPTION We will be sending out hard copies of the RNA Yearbook early in 2026, but are aware that some members prefer to read it online. If you would prefer us not to post you a copy click on [this link](#) to de-select yourself. The Yearbook will be available to read online on our website all year.

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

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VALUED WORKERS

A conference on the employability of military partners takes place at Kingston University on 3 November. Places (in person or online) are free but need to be booked. The conference will offer a forward-looking and optimistic view of how military partners are well equipped to be valuable in the workforce of the future. Attendance is free, including catering and networking opportunities – register [here](#).

ARMY v NAVY Tickets for the 2026 Army v Navy rugby match at Twickenham on Saturday 2 May are available to RNA members at a special rate of £44.20, with access to a bar next to our allocated seating area. Use the link [here](#) to buy your tickets – the RFU will contact you directly to complete the transaction.

JOB OPS Marine personnel co-ordinator in Glasgow and logistics operative in London are just two of the opportunities for veterans on the current SaluteMyJob website, as well as training opportunities and careers advice. See www.salutemyjob.com for details.

RNA Central Office,
Lanyard House, Scott Road, HM Naval Base, Portsmouth PO1 3LU
comms@rnassoc.org
www.royal-naval-association.co.uk



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