



ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION

Friday 24 October 2025

SEMAPHORE SHORT

AHOY SHIPMATES We are already hard at work to make sure that 2026 is just as memorable a year for shipmates. To start the ball rolling, we are putting together the latest Yearbook, which will look back to 2025 as well as looking ahead, and will be with you early in the New Year. If you would prefer to read it online rather than have a hard copy posted to you and save a tree or two, click on [this link](#) to de-select yourself. The Yearbook will be available to read online on our website all year.

CARDS AND MORE If your idea of Christmas could incorporate a cheerful donkey in an RNA beret, then we might have just the thing for you! RNA Christmas card packs are available from **our webshop** in packs of ten. Each pack contains two different designs, donkeys and robins in one, the other features robins and a snowy harbour scene. Each pack costs £4.50 including postage. And that's not all – our 2026 slimline diary is also on sale (£7 inc postage), as well as the RNA hanging gingerbread sailor decoration (£9).

A QUESTION FOR YOU As the evenings draw in, RNA Welfare and Wellbeing Co-ordinator Jon Everett is organising an online quiz for branches and individuals to join in. Details are still being worked on, but if it proves popular it could become a regular event, helping bring the RNA community together. Watch out for more details in Semaphore publications and our social media channels.

FIRESIDE CHATS Our next Fireside Chat is on Monday (27 October) when our speaker is Captain Mark Hamilton, the Commanding Officer of HMS Sultan in Gosport. 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.

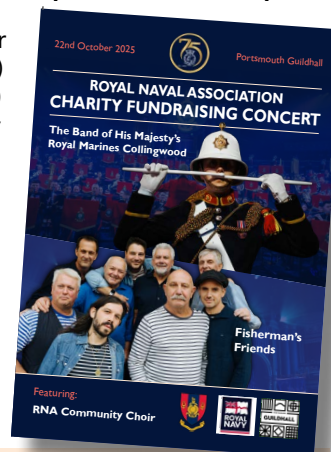
PLAY THE ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION WEEKLY LOTTERY AND WIN UP TO £25,000

PLAY NOW



ON SONG The RNA charity fundraising concert at Portsmouth Guildhall on Wednesday provided a spectacular finale to our 75th Anniversary programme of major events. The combined talents of the Fisherman's Friends, the Band of HM Royal Marines Collingwood and the RNA Community Choir – making its formal debut – delighted a full house of more than 1,500 people and raised thousands of pounds to help the association in supporting shipmates. Thank you to everyone involved, and to those who attended. For a full report and more images (the image above was captured by S/M Nigel Huxtable), see the November edition of the Semaphore Circular, published on Friday 7 November.

SIGNATURE OFFER Our concert programme (right) raised more than £2,000 for the RNA on Wednesday evening – and we hope it might raise a bit more now... We have a special copy, signed by the members of Fisherman's Friends, which we are offering to the highest bidder. Send your bid to cml@rnassoc.org by Friday 31 October if you would like this unique souvenir.



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.

CIRCULAR DEADLINE Submissions for the November edition should be with us by 1000 on Wednesday 5 November. The Circular will be published on Friday 7 November

EXTRA TIME Don't forget that British Summer Time finishes this weekend – the clocks go back by one hour at 2am on Sunday.

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ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION

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