



ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION

Friday 19 December 2025

SEMAPHORE SHORT

AHOY SHIPMATES So that was 2025 – a year that promised much and delivered exactly that. It doesn't seem that long ago that the Central Office team was preparing for a busy, exciting and enjoyable 75th anniversary year, showcasing on the widest stage possible just what we can offer shipmates. And here we are again... into 2026, and the zeal is still there. We are working on new ideas and initiatives to add to the mix to ensure we continue to evolve as an organisation and stay relevant to all our members. Watch this space!

PUBLICATIONS A reminder to shipmates that this Short is the last scheduled publication for 2025 while we take a Christmas break. The first scheduled publication for 2026 will be the Branch email on Friday 9 January, then:

16 January: Semaphore Short
23 January: Fundraising email
30 January: Semaphore Short
6 February: Semaphore Circular
13 February: Branch email
20 February: Semaphore Short
27 February: Fundraising email.

SALFORD CONFERENCE

A reminder that the outline programme for the 2026 RNA National Conference, based around Salford Quays, can be found in the December Semaphore Circular (click [here](#)) as well as documentation for potential delegates, for the submission of Branch motions and nomination forms for those shipmates who would like to be considered in elections for members and deputy members of the National Council.

FIRESIDE CHATS Our next Fireside Chat will be on Monday 5 January, when Richard 'Jonah' Jones will talk on the subject of 'Titanic – the Searches and the Dives'. Fireside Chats start at 1830 every Monday, and to access the chats, log into Zoom [here](#). The meeting ID is 2888305105 and the access password is Shipmate.



FULL CIRCLE On 17 March an extraordinary maritime expedition will set sail from Falmouth. Full Circle is a 2,000nm voyage around the coastline of the UK, uniting adventure, heritage and veteran recovery. Organised by the veterans' sailing charity Turn to Starboard in partnership with The Invictus Games Birmingham 2027, the 13-week journey will see two tall ships visit 22 ports across England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Isle of Man. Crewed by 70 wounded, injured and sick veterans from the UK and overseas, the expedition is designed to inspire confidence, purpose and connection through life at sea.

The five-leg expedition includes stops at Plymouth, Weymouth, Portsmouth, Ramsgate, Chatham, Ipswich, Hull, Newcastle, Leith, Wick, Stromness, Stornoway, Summer Isles, Oban, Bangor NI, Peel IOM, Liverpool, Milford Haven, and the Isles of Scilly. At each stop there will be engagement with veterans, the community, schools, defence and maritime organisations. More than a sailing challenge, Full Circle marks the one-year countdown to the Invictus Games Birmingham 2027 – to find out more, visit www.turntostarboard.co.uk/full-circle

YEARBOOK The communications team has finished writing and designing the 2025-26 RNA Yearbook, which has been sent off for printing and distribution. Shipmates can expect to receive their copy early in the New Year, and it will also appear online on the RNA website in due course.



CHRISTMAS APPEAL The RNA's first Christmas Appeal will benefit Shipmates long after the tinsel is put away. Your donation will help us bring shipmates together, offer support through life's ups and downs, and keep the spirit of unity alive. For details of the appeal and how to donate see www.justgiving.com/campaign/rnachristmasappeal, where you will also find the link to our heartwarming video which launched the campaign.

ARMY v NAVY Tickets for the 2026 Army v Navy rugby match at the Allianz Stadium, Twickenham, on Saturday 2 May are available to RNA members at a special discounted rate of £44.20. These tickets allow access to a private bar adjacent to our allocated seating area. Use the link [here](#) to buy your tickets – once you have stated your required tickets the Rugby Football Union (RFU) will contact you directly to complete the transaction.

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**ROYAL NAVAL
ASSOCIATION**

The Royal Naval Association is incorporated by Royal Charter. Full recognition by the Royal Navy. Registered charity No. 266982

10% discount on tickets for RNA members and your guests



Saturday May 2

ARMY NAVY

Twickenham

Discounted tickets

Free access bar next to dedicated RNA seating

Seats on the centre line

**ONCE
NAVY
ALWAYS
NAVY**



**SERVICE
CHAMPIONSHIP**



**scan to book
or email**

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