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THE ROYAL INSTITUTION OF NAVAL ARCHITECTS LONDON BRANCH

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THURSDAY, 23 JULY 2015

"THE FORGOTTEN FLOTILLA"

BY

Dr. Michael Bendon

Meeting to be held at
ABS House, 1 Frying Pan Alley, E1 7HR

At 17:45 for 18:00 hours
(duration approx 1 hour)

The presentation will be largely based around the contents of Bendon's book 'The Forgotten Flotilla' which describes how he found the wrecks of two Second World War Tank Landing Craft and the investigation to identify the remains. Sir Rowland Baker, RINA member, completed the original design for the LCTs in only 3 days and the principles he established are still in use largely unchanged to this day. Bendon discovered that the wrecks he found were part of a flotilla of LCTs sent to the Mediterranean in late 1940. They were the first true LCTs ever constructed and their construction was modified during manufacture to enable them to be built and transported in sections. The first 20 Mk1 LCTs were all sent to Egypt for assembly and remained in the Mediterranean theatre for the duration of the war. By the end of the war only 3 of the original 20 Mk1 LCTs were still afloat, all the others being lost mainly due to enemy action.

Bendon's presentation will also include other information about the manufacturing process, machinery and how the design was rationalised to allow LCTs to be manufactured by structural steelworking companies rather than the hard-pressed wartime shipyards.

ALL ARE WELCOME

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Certificates will be available at the end of the meeting for all attendees if requested.

DUE TO LIMITED CAPACITY OF THE ABS AUDITORIUM, PRE-BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL TO SECURE A PLACE. PREFERENCE WILL BE GIVEN TO THOSE WHO HAVE REGISTERED.

PLEASE CONTACT THE HONORARY SECRETARY FOR BOOKINGS AND ADVISE IF A CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD) CERTIFICATE IS ALSO REQUIRED.