



THE DRAMA OF DUNKIRK STUDY DAY

The River & Rowing Museum, Henley-on-Thames RG9 1BF
Tuesday, 5th March 2019

Fee £15 for TVN members, £17 for non TVN U3A

This event takes place in the stunning setting of the Thames Room of the River and Rowing Museum, Henley, looking out across the river. The intention of the study day is to further our understanding of one of the most important operations of the 2nd World War – the evacuation of the British Expeditionary Force under the constant bombardment of the German guns. We are very fortunate in our panel of knowledgeable and enthusiastic speakers who will lead us through the day.

Programme:

10:00	Registration and Refreshments
10:30	Introduction – Patsy Thornton
10:40	The Dunkirk Fleet – John Tough
11:30	BREAK
11:45	Dunkirk – Defeat, Debacle, Decision or Defiance? – Paul Evans
12:25	“The Devon Belle” – Tim Deaton
12:45	Panel
13:00	Lunch Break
14:45	Forgotten Voices of Dunkirk” – WU3A Military History Group
16:00	CLOSE

These events usually get booked up quickly. If you are interested in attending this study day you are advised to send your application form in quickly.

For further information, please contact Patsy Thornton, patsy@thorntac.co.uk
Tel: 01344 774812

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SPEAKERS AND SUBJECTS

John Tough is the archivist of the Association of Dunkirk Little Ships. He will describe for us the assembly of vessels which took part in the evacuation, Royal Navy, Merchant Navy and the Little Ships, and how their movement was co-ordinated in Operation Dynamo.

Paul Evans, project historian, has had a distinguished career, which includes being the MoD Head of the library and archives at Firepower, the Royal Artillery Museum. He was also chosen as the BBC's artillery expert for their 2014 roadshow, commemorating the First World War. He will look at the overall importance in the conduct of the war, of the evacuation of the BEF, and how this was achieved.

Tim Deaton of Thames River Cruise will tell us of the part played by the "Devon Belle", a river steamer, in the evacuation, and how his company still employs her on the Thames today.

"Forgotten Voices of Dunkirk". 8 members of the military history group of Wokingham U3A will give dramatic readings from the book of this title. Following the close of the Second World War, the Imperial War Museum recorded the spoken memories of members of the armed forces, merchant seamen, volunteers and nurses who were involved. These readings will take us from the arrival of the BEF in France in the autumn of 1939 to the rescue of those forces from the beaches of Dunkirk in the summer of 1940.