

ABANDON SHIP!

Surviving the Wartime Atlantic

Background

The *HQS Wellington* is the last surviving member of the Grimsby class of sloops. Built in 1933, the *Wellington* served valiantly during the Second World War, performing convoy escort duties in the Atlantic. It has been moored on the Thames by Temple tube station since 1948, when the ship was purchased to be the Livery Hall for the Honourable Company of Master Mariners.

In recent years, *Wellington* has hosted successful temporary exhibitions to increase public awareness of Merchant Navy history and its significance to wider British history. There are exciting long-term plans to continue developing the education and engagement offer on board.

Exhibition

To mark the 100th anniversary of the sinking of the merchant ship *SS Otaki*, and the 75th anniversary of the *Richmond Castle* sinking, *Wellington* is hosting the **Abandon Ship!** exhibition.

Between 21 May-6 November 2017, the exhibition & events programme will explore the stories of the two ships, the fates of their crews, and wider themes of abandoning ship and survival at sea.

Opportunities

The project is being supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund and offers lots of ways for volunteers to get involved. There are opportunities to:

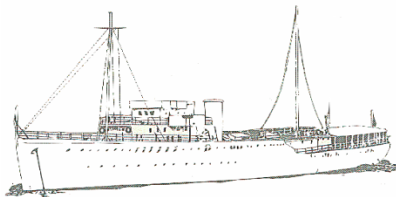


- Research and write exhibition interpretation texts and blog articles
- Gain practical experience in object handling and display
- Write and present informal mini-lectures for visitors
- Provide orientation for visitors, stewarding, assisting with Front of House and events
- Develop and deliver family workshops and activities

Volunteers will be supported by experienced museum & heritage professionals, who will work with them on individual training plans to develop new skills. Reasonable travel expenses will be paid and volunteers will get free lunch and refreshment on board. Certificates and letters of reference can be provided at the end of the exhibition. There will also be on-going opportunities to volunteer as the development of the *Wellington*'s heritage offer continues after the exhibition.

Commitment

As well as attending initial training, volunteers interested in taking part in exhibition development should be available ideally one day a week (Tuesdays TBC), March - May. The exhibition will be open on Sundays & Mondays. Volunteers interested in taking part in programme delivery should be available one day a week, ideally for the duration of the exhibition. For more information or to discuss ways you might be able to take part, please email: abandonship1@outlook.com



THE WELLINGTON TRUST

HQS Wellington, Temple Stairs, Victoria Embankment
London WC2R 2PN

t: 44(0)20 7836 8179 f: 44(0)20 7240 3082 e: info@thewellingtontrust.com
www.thewellingtontrust.com

Registered Office: HQS Wellington Company No: 5353257 Charity Reg No: 1109066

Patron: HRH The Princess Royal KG KT GCVO QSO