

OPERATION TIGER: DECEPTION AND DISASTER

A talk At Slapton Village Hall

on 10th October at 2.15pm

DEVONSHIRE ASSOCIATION - HISTORY SECTION

EVENTS - OCTOBER 2024 to JANUARY 2025



Operation Tiger: Deception and Disaster, 80th Anniversary Commemoration

A talk by Graham Hawkins

Thursday 10th October 2024 | 2.15pm | Slapton Village Hall

Exercise Tiger was one of the large-scale rehearsals for D-Day held off the South Devon coast in early 1944. It took place in April 1944, and, after friendly fire had resulted in numerous casualties, a convoy of 8 US tank landing craft were attacked in Lyme Bay by a squadron of German e-boats operating from Cherbourg. Total casualties were around 750 American army and marine personnel killed and two landing craft sunk. No information about the disaster was released until August 1944, when the casualties were listed among those suffered in the D-Day landings. A Sherman tank recovered from the sea in 1984 stands at Torcross as a permanent memorial to those who died in Exercise Tiger.

Graham Hawkins attended the University of Exeter and in the early 1970s he studied the effect of social and economic change on town development in the Exe Valley for an MA. He became a history teacher and in 1990 he moved to Somerset LEA becoming Senior Adviser for Secondary Education. After 17 years in the Middle East Graham returned in 2010 to live in the South Hams and in 2014 he was elected Chairman of the West Dart History Group.



Entrance £8.00 on the door

for non-DA members