

04 July 2016

## Independence Day

I wonder if in years to come we will be celebrating our **Independence from Europe** with the same fervour and enthusiasm as our US cousins celebrate their independence now. Mind you, I've heard that some of them are looking to apply to re-join the Old Country, depending on the outcome of their forthcoming elections. OK, I'm joking, but then again we live in strange times. Anyway, I'm sure that you all join me in wishing our American friends and colleagues all the best for the 4 July holiday.

**AOC Awards** The Chapter put forward several people for prestigious AOC awards this year and I'm pleased to say that all were successful. The awards will be made at the 2016 Annual Symposium in DC (29 Nov – 1 Dec) and we will also celebrate them at our Christmas Dinner in the RAF Club on 9 December. Dr Jim Wickes will receive the Joseph W. Kearney Pioneer Award; Dr Clive Coleman will be inducted into the AOC Technology Hall of Fame, and BOD member Phil Davies gets the Anton D. Brees Lifetime Service Award. BZ and congratulations to all of them!

**Apprentice Award.** On the subject of awards, during the AGM, we briefly discussed recognizing the achievements of UK EW industry apprentices with a suitable competitive award. What we need now are some ideas regarding how such an award, or awards, might work in practice. If your company runs a scheme recognising top apprentices please get in touch with the BOD and specifically Chris Howe ([cahowe500@gmail.com](mailto:cahowe500@gmail.com)) and share your ideas. Any ideas from all our nearly 500 members are also welcome.

**It's finally here**, no not summer, but a **visit to a Type 45 destroyer**, actually HMS Dauntless. The UK Chapter BOD, and particularly VP Chris Howe MBE, has been working to set up a visit for the past 2 years. The visit to HMS Dauntless will take place on Wednesday 3 August 2016 at 14:30 in Portsmouth. The attendance list is now full and we have a waiting list. A report on the visit will be in the next Newsletter.

**AOC Elections** The AOC BOD has announced a change in elections dates:

*The Election time frame has been shifted this year. Elections will start September 1st and run through September 31st. The election guide is in the June 2016 JED issue and then it will run again in August 2016 JED Issue.*

International Region 1 Nominees are: Pierre-Alain Antoine (France); Johannes Naumann (Germany), and our very own Sue Robertson, who was nominated by the UK Chapter Board. When the time comes, every vote in what is usually a low turn-out counts, so please make the effort to vote.

**US AOC 5-Eyes Classified Conferences** I've been campaigning for the US to open up some of their SECRET US-only conferences to the wider AOC community and they have responded. Last year's inaugural Cyber Electromagnetic Activities (CEMA) had around 20 5-Eyes attendees and they are hoping for more this year (18-20 Oct, Aberdeen Testing ground). More details and the call for papers can be found here: <http://www.crows.org/event/192-aoc-conferences/2016/10/18/69-cema-2016.html>. You can also find details at [www.crows.org](http://www.crows.org) about the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual AOC PACOM conference

scheduled (8-9 Nov, Oahu (HA)) which is unclassified but followed by a 1-day 5-Eyes SECRET workshop. Consideration is also being given to opening the long-running Cooperative EW TS/SCI conference at Point Magu, CA, open to the 5-Eyes community, if sufficient interest and some 5-Eye briefers can be found. The 45<sup>th</sup> such conference was held in April 2016 and was attended by 600 industry and government EW folk.

**Air Defence Radar Museum Visit** Ian Fish has confirmed the visit to the UK's Air Defence Radar Museum for 29 September. The Chapter-subsidized visit has been warmly and enthusiastically welcomed by the Chairman of the ADRM's Board of Trustees, Air Chief Marshal Sir John Allison, who many of you will no doubt remember. The museum, which is located at the world's longest continuously operating radar site, provides a unique window into the history of radar and is a great day out in Norfolk, for all the family. The museum is located at Neatishead, close to Horning and the Broads. They have a great website, which is well worth a visit: [www.radarmuseum.co.uk](http://www.radarmuseum.co.uk). The detail and booking form will be in next month's newsletter. As an aside, we are also working on a visit to 11 EOD Regiment at RAF Northolt at some point in 2016 or 2017.

**Finally** That's all folks. I've listed a few dates below where you might consider joining us and the wider AOC community in 2016. Remember, the UK Chapter is all about you, so please stay engaged and let the Board know what you want. Feedback is always welcome; otherwise we operate in a vacuum. We need more diverse and young members to become actively involved in what the Chapter does – any ideas are most welcome – but ultimately, what are you doing to recruit more members and join in our activities?



John Clifford OBE  
UK Chapter President

#### **SOME DATES FOR YOUR 2016 DIARY**

**Visit to RN Type 45 Destroyer**, HMNB Portsmouth, 3 August 2016

**Visit to Air Defence Radar Museum**, Neatishead, Norfolk, 29 Sept 2016

**Visit to 11 EOD Regiment**, RAF Northolt, Date TBD 2016

**Christmas Dinner and Award Ceremony**, RAF Club 9 Dec 2016, Black Tie and Miniatures preferred.

**Check out our website at [www.ukaoc.org](http://www.ukaoc.org)**

You can also check out **career opportunities** there too, by clicking on the **"News"** Tab and **"EW Job Vacancies"** tab.

If your company would like to advertise job vacancies please contact Chris Howe MBE ([cahowe500@gmail.com](mailto:cahowe500@gmail.com))