Latest Patron Capital Greatness Lecture tells the story of the Cockleshell Heroes ahead of recreation of Operation Frankton

Patron Capital, the pan-European institutional investor focused on property-backed investments, held the latest in its Greatness Lecture series last night, welcoming writer and military historian, Dr Tom Keene who recounted the story of Operation Frankton to a packed room at Patron Capital’s Vine Street offices.

The talk comes ahead of a recreation of Operation Frankton set to take place in December, marking the 75th anniversary of one of World War II’s most daring raids.

Raising funds and awareness for disabled war veterans and The Royal Marines Charity, Managing Director, Keith Breslauer will join a group of retired and serving Royal Marines and injured personnel from Hasler Company in a recreation of the raid, which includes an 85-mile paddle and a 100-mile run.

On 7 December 1942, ten Royal Marines canoed through the night from the Gironde estuary to Bordeaux, attacked docked German cargo ships with limpet mines and escaped overland to rendezvous with the French Resistance in Ruffec. Only two men returned but the courageous operation taught lessons about communication and teamwork that would prove invaluable for the D-Day landings and the men’s story was immortalised in the 1995 film ‘The Cockleshell Heroes’.

Keith Breslauer, Managing Director of Patron Capital, said:

“I would like to thank Dr Tom Keene for depicting the thrilling story of Operation Frankton, which he describes as having gone on to redefine the war ethic of today’s Royal Marine commandos. Sent on what was effectively a suicide mission, with only the bare essentials of food, clothing and the all-important limpet mines, this is a story of true leadership, courage and teamwork.

“Our Greatness Lectures celebrate inspirational individuals and it will be an honour to follow in the footsteps of The Cockleshell Heroes, this December, alongside retired and serving Royal Marines, furthering Patron Capital’s work to raise much-needed funds and awareness for The Royal Marines Charity.”

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Notes to Editors

About Patron Capital Partners
Patron represents approximately €3.4 billion of capital across several funds and related co-investments, investing in property, corporate operating entities whose value is primarily supported by property assets and distressed debt and credit related businesses.

Since it was established in 1999, Patron has invested in over 71 investments and programs involving over 65 million square feet (6 million square metres) in 16 countries, with many of these investments realised.

Investors represent a variety of sovereign wealth funds, prominent universities, major institutions, private foundations, and high net worth individuals located throughout North America, Europe, Asia and the Middle East. The main investment adviser to the Funds is Patron Capital Advisers LLP, which is based in London, and Patron has other offices across Europe including Barcelona, Milan and Luxembourg; the group is comprised of 74 people, including a 41-person investment team.

Further information about Patron Capital is available at www.patroncapital.com