



Our Founding Mother, Julia Peckham, passed away, on the evening of 23rd April 2024 in her hometown of Burgess Hill, Mid Sussex, England, after a short illness.

A legend has left us...

Julia, together with her late husband Richard Peckham has a very special place in Dry Bulk Terminals Group. She has been the Founding Mother of our organisation as far back as 1998. The seeds of the idea of forming a group that would become driving force for our industry was born out of a cry for help by a number of dry bulk terminals at the time. The overwhelming force of shipowners in response to some of the bulk carrier casualties at sea where structural failure may be a factor was turned on to terminals being negligent in loading their ships. The group was born out of a necessity to have a voice for the terminals to counteract those claims which were fundamentally inaccurate.







The early founder members of the group have quickly formed a bond. For Julia, the business case for the group has quickly become a personal passion. She has often put the interests of the group ahead of any personal interest she might have. Without her dedication and hard work in the early days when she had to make many sacrifices, the group would certainly not have survived and flourished.

Julia had many interests she pursued all her life including journalism, theatre, choir singing and charity work. However, we believe shipping and Dry Bulk Terminals Group had a special place in her heart. Whenever she spoke about it, her eyes lit up and her passion poured out. She had a great knowledge of the subject matter which she liked to share with others. Although when she mentioned the word 'Bulk Carrier' as one of her passions to a non-shipping person, she was mostly greeted with glazed eyes, and the conversation was quickly changed to another subject.

Julia possessed many special qualities as a person. She was passionate about the things she was involved in which in turn made them a success including our group. She played a pivotal role in developing the trust, bond and friendship that exist among the Members of the group today. She had a genuine interest to form friendships with the members and got to know many of us personally. She was meticulous in work she did and had a keen eye for detail. She was there to assist and support any Member beyond the call of duty anytime and that was appreciated by everyone. She brought joy and happiness to any gathering she was part of. Having spent so many years together with Julia in this industry, we all have a lot of good memories and stories to tell.



From our Members we have received several memories. Bringing stakeholders in the dry bulk industry together in the way they have with DBTG, led to many business friendships. One quote from her and Richard was: "Business should be serious, and seriously good fun!" Julia was so grateful for all the warm wishes she eceived from so many of our group, even when she became less active than she was before a few years ago. To her our group was like a wonderful 'industry family', which she was very proud of. Many of you talk about her strength, her sense of humour and everlasting positivity.



In January we were together with Julia, in order to prepare for our November 2024 London 25th Anniversary Conference. Again, she came up with great ideas and inspiration. Sadly, she will not be able to attend this great event and she will be missed by us all. Of course, we will be able to raise a glass to toast all her achievements and successes and reminisce about some of her and Richard's stories at DBTG over many years, especially on this 25th anniversary.

We are grateful and thankful to Julia for bringing the group to where we are today. We are determined to continue the excellent work she has done to develop and grow the group and fly the flag into the future, as being the legacy, we will move forward. We will also continue to honour the core values she inspired within the group for trust, transparency and friendship that provide the group with some of its unique characteristics.



Julia will always have a special place in our hearts.

We wish Julia fair winds and following seas as she embarks on her final voyage. May the echoes of your laughter and encouragement resonate across the seas, a testament of life lived with wind in her sails and salt in her veins.

Dry Bulk Terminals Group

Condolences

We wish her daughter Zoe, her son Jamie and their families and all others who have loved Julia, all the power they need in this difficult time. If you have a personal message for the family or if you wish to pass your condolences to the family, please send it to info@drybulkterminals.org and we will take care that it will be received by the family.

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