

# The Basiliscae Mercury 356

## The Internet newsletter for the arms and armour community

A new underwater discovery and 50 years since another important discovery. Otherwise, a quiet couple of weeks - good and bad news for the museum world. Most interesting read is the gruesome death of the Pharaoh.

### Arms and armour in the news

#### Ancient arms

Bronze Age spearhead recovered in Jersey

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-jersey-56195939>

Feature on ancient Greek armour

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-foyle-west-56071229>

Another returned helmet

<https://elpais.com/cultura/2021-02-11/los-herederos-de-un-coleccionista-devuelven-uno-de-los-cascos-celtiberos-expoliados-en-aratis.html>

Ceremonial chariot found near Pompeii

<https://www.theguardian.com/science/2021/feb/27/archaeologists-find-unique-ceremonial-vehicle-near-pompeii>

Women in the ancient world

<https://www.asor.org/anetoday/2021/02/genderbending-performances>

#### Grave stories

Egyptian pharaoh may have been killed in battle – rather gruesome detail

<https://www.livescience.com/egyptian-pharaoh-battlefield-death.html>

Looking for King Mathias

<https://hungarytoday.hu/king-mathias-matyas-kiraly-mathias-i-hungarian-kings-archaeology/>

Mass grave of late 18<sup>th</sup> century British soldiers found near Utrecht

<https://www.rtvutrecht.nl/nieuws/2138044/skeletten-in-massagraf-vianen-vermoedelijk-britse-soldaten.html>

French soldiers from the retreat from Moscow reburied

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-56052504>

## **On the frontlines**

Peruse the Bayeux tapestry from the comfort of your own computer

<https://www.travelandleisure.com/culture-design/visual-arts/medieval-bayeux-tapestry-virtual-viewing>

1000 year old frescos found in Augsburg

<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/news/bavarian-frescoes-are-confirmed-to-be-among-the-oldest-in-northern-europe>

## **Through the gunloop...**

Part of Hurst Castle collapses

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-hampshire-56214955>

## **Cannons to the left, cannon to the right**

Edinburgh get excited at the discovery of a round shot

<https://www.scotsman.com/whats-on/arts-and-entertainment/cannonball-fired-church-during-16th-century-siege-uncovered-beneath-route-edinburgh-tram-extension-3133817>

Short piece on *Stuer Ghewalt* in Den Bosch

<https://indebuurt.nl/denbosch/genieten-van/mysteries/mysterie-wie-was-de-boze-griet-en-waarom-zij-belangrijk-voor-den-bosch-was~137650/>

## **Café Basiliscoe**

Oldest beer in the world

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/egypt-unearths-worlds-oldest-known-beer-factory/>

With olives

<https://www.biblicalarchaeology.org/daily/ancient-cultures/ancient-near-eastern-world/olives-for-ancient-eating/>

And olive oil

<https://www.oliveoiltimes.com/production/2500-year-old-mill-discovered-in-italy/90454>

Ancient sweet wine

<https://lighthouse.mq.edu.au/article/february-2021/ancient-roman-city-reveals-its-winemaking-secrets>

And prohibition stills

<https://www.livescience.com/hell-hole-swamp-al-capone-liquor-still.html>

## Nautical news

50 years since the discovery of the *Trinidad Valencera*

[La Trinidad Valencera: Wreck's discovery remembered 50 years on - BBC News](https://www.bbc.com/news/50-years-on-the-discovery-of-the-trinidad-valencera)

<https://www.derrynow.com/news/home/611531/new-details-made-public-today-on-the-amazing-story-of-the-derry-divers-who-found-a-shipwreck-off-the-donegal-coast.html>

Dutch ship *Schoonhoven*, lost 1626, found off Portuguese coast

<http://www.patrimoniocultural.gov.pt/pt/news/noticias/navio-holandes-afundado-no-seculo-xvii-possivelmente-identificado-em-melides/?fbclid=IwAR3iuoowqp4r0mqsnNdsj1B0G5q59YzWsy9sTamHTA0jzwl372EGMbXLXEk>

Round up of the recent searches for the *Bonhomme Richard*

<https://www.gazetteherald.co.uk/news/19064681.hidden-history-find-sea/>

Painting of the British fleet at sea in the 1750s

<https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2021/feb/17/the-great-british-art-tour-a-flagship-work-from-when-britain-ruled-the-waves>

Exploring HMS *Buffalo* 1815

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/437243/archaeologists-dive-into-exploring-old-shipwreck-at-whitianga>

## Museum news and exhibitions

### News

English museums get a date for re-opening:

<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/news/uk-government-confirms-museum-opening-date>

US museums appealing for funds:

<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/news/many-museums-will-be-lost-us-association-appeals-to-congress-to-support-funding-for-institutions>

New ideas at the Smithsonian

<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/museums-and-heritage>

Restructuring at the V&A

<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/news/radical-restructuring-of-london-s-victoria-and-albert-museum-due-to-the-effects-of-the-pandemic-will-lead-to-curatorial-job-losses>

## **New museums**

Call for a new museum on Aboriginal warrior culture

<https://theconversation.com/friday-essay-its-time-for-a-new-museum-dedicated-to-the-fighters-of-the-frontier-wars-155299>

## **Museum musings**

British Museum researching its own history

<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/news/collection-curator-joins-british-museum>

## **Books**

David Cressy: *England's Islands in a Sea of Troubles*

<https://global.oup.com/academic/product/englands-islands-in-a-sea-of-troubles-9780198856603?q=cressy&lang=en&cc=us>

Recent medieval books including one on swords

<https://www.medievalists.net/2021/02/medieval-books-swindlers-swords/>

Latest from Osprey

<https://ospreypublishing.com/store/military-history/upcoming-books/available-this-month>

And Sword and Pen

<https://www.pen-and-sword.co.uk/comingsoon>

## **Online Book**

Celebrating 10 Years of the Journal of Chinese Military History

<https://www2.brill.com/JCMH10>

## **Popular culture**

Vikings - they are all the rage....

<https://www.theguardian.com/tv-and-radio/2021/feb/20/why-have-vikings-taken-over-pop-culture>

Making weapons for 21<sup>st</sup> century programmes

<https://www.historyextra.com/period/21st-century/crafting-historical-weapons-wolf-hall-witcher-tod-workshop-podcast/>

And what the experts think of them

[https://news.yahoo.com/medieval-weapons-master-rates-7-104200956.html?guccounter=1&guce\\_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZ29vZ2xILmNvLnVrLw&guce\\_referrer\\_sig=AQAAAMikbRcGfY4Wyqev1p6ttlc3OXHZZhpQ3Wv6xxIUVAajtFWJK6I0InaBD3NnKGfkyfakuI4YGkyd2JNfllR6lr17gFpn155KYkWWCMFL0w2IMdV6-wO-y3fzBMG7fyQ-iaQuM6CJK7pGZcdLI5MkKMQYD9kz0r5bijiWn3PRjXQp](https://news.yahoo.com/medieval-weapons-master-rates-7-104200956.html?guccounter=1&guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZ29vZ2xILmNvLnVrLw&guce_referrer_sig=AQAAAMikbRcGfY4Wyqev1p6ttlc3OXHZZhpQ3Wv6xxIUVAajtFWJK6I0InaBD3NnKGfkyfakuI4YGkyd2JNfllR6lr17gFpn155KYkWWCMFL0w2IMdV6-wO-y3fzBMG7fyQ-iaQuM6CJK7pGZcdLI5MkKMQYD9kz0r5bijiWn3PRjXQp)

King Arthur in America

<https://www.bloomsbury.com/uk/thames-mudlarking-9781784424329/>

## Events

Discover the *London*

<https://www.nauticalarchaeologysociety.org/Appeal/save-the-london>

Online seminars on the history of collecting

<https://www.wallacecollection.org/whats-on/seminar-in-the-history-of-collecting-15/>

ICOMAM conference –Toledo, Spain

New dates - delayed until November

[https://ejercito.defensa.gob.es/eventos/icomam\\_toledo\\_2021/](https://ejercito.defensa.gob.es/eventos/icomam_toledo_2021/)

## Calls for papers

30 June 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Weapons in society

<https://royalarmouries.org/event/weapons-in-society/>

## Websites and downloads

News from Paris

<https://www.musee-armee.fr/collections/ressources/le-magazine-du-musee.html>

Medieval Warhorse project

<http://medievalwarhorse.exeter.ac.uk/>

Trinidad Valencera collections at Derry

<https://towermuseumcollections.com/la-trinidad-valencera/>

## 1066 etc: tournaments

<https://www.medievalists.net/2021/02/henry-young-king-tournament/>

## **Finally**

This fortnight I tweeted not much at all

<https://twitter.com/Basiliscoe>

**Compiled by Ruth Rhynas Brown – 28 February 2021**

Some people have asked me about making a contribution to the Newsletter – if you would like to support us, you can make a donation here through our Paypal account – see here for details:

<http://www.basiliscoe.com/id2.html>