

The Basiliscope 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 18th 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 Basiliscae

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.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)

<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 21st 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=AQAAAMikbRcGfY4Wyqev1p6ttlC3OXHZZhpQ3Wv6xxIUVAajtFWJK6I0InaBD3NnKGfkyfaku4YGkyd2JNfllR6lr17gFpn155KYkWWCMFL0w2IMdV6-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/

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

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