

# The Basiliscoe Mercury 364

## The Internet newsletter for the arms and armour community

A longer gap while I spent a few days in Scotland. But some interesting stories coming up - Coventry's medieval sword, an ancient Greek helmet from Croatia, and searching for British warships. And a new ICOMAM Magazine to peruse.

### Arms and armour in the news

#### Ancient arms

Ancient walls of Jerusalem uncovered

<https://www.jpost.com/archaeology/archaeologists-find-part-of-jerusalems-wall-destroyed-on-the-9th-of-av-673794>

Ancient Greek helmet found in tomb in Croatia

<https://greekreporter.com/2021/07/16/ancient-greek-helmet-found-in-stone-burial-chamber-in-croatia/>

Roman carving found in Vindolanda - impressive horse...

<https://www.heritagedaily.com/2021/07/ornate-stone-carving-discovered-at-roman-fort-near-hadrians-wall/139608>

Preserving Offa's Dyke

<https://www.theguardian.com/culture/2021/jul/05/campaign-hopes-shore-up-offas-dyke-future-threats>

#### Through the arrow-slit . . .

Medieval bridge to Suffolk castle found

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-suffolk-57652145>

Caerlaverock in the medieval climate

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-south-scotland-57694242>

Feature on Dover castle

<https://archaeology.co.uk/articles/features/interpreting-dover-castles-great-tower.htm>

Codnor Castle under threat

<https://www.derbyshiretimes.co.uk/news/people/further-details-emerge-about-trespassing-and-vandalism-at-medieval-derbyshire-castle-3309278>

## **Miscellany**

Interesting sculpture of Scottish abbot with a dagger

<https://www.scotsman.com/heritage-and-retro/heritage/13th-century-carving-records-abbots-assassination-at-scottish-abbey-3294908>

Fascinating piece about Chickasaws recycling 16<sup>th</sup> century Spanish artefacts

<https://www.heritagedaily.com/2021/07/chickasaws-repurposed-objects-from-fleeing-spanish-conquistadors/139612>

More on Coventry's historic sword returning for a display

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-coventry-warwickshire-57695343>  
<https://www.coventrytelegraph.net/news/coventry-news/historic-coventry-sword-confiscated-king-20972003>

5 treasures from Westminster Abbey

<https://museumcrush.org/fragments-death-and-illumination-westminster-abbey-christian-treasures/>

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

Fort Halifax located in Pennsylvania

<https://dailyvoice.com/pennsylvania/dauphin/news/fort-from-the-seven-years-war-uncovered-in-dauphin-county/811965/>

Clasp knife found on Michigan fort dig

<https://www.mlive.com/news/2021/07/knife-unearthed-at-historic-mackinaw-city-fort-an-exciting-find.html>

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

Mystery of the disappearing cannon

<https://www.mercurynews.com/2021/07/17/who-swiped-the-cannon-from-the-william-mckinley-statue-in-san-jose/>

Devon cannon vandalized at museum (and used as a battering ram)

<https://www.devonlive.com/news/devon-news/vandals-use-cannon-attack-ancient-5671339>

## **Café Basiliscoe - snacking menu**

Oldest olive tree ...

<https://greekreporter.com/2021/06/28/3000-year-old-olive-tree-in-crete/>

Oldest pistachio nut in Yorkshire

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-york-north-yorkshire-57862964>

## Into the 20<sup>th</sup> century

Assassination in Serajevo

[https://www.jpost.com/international/on-this-day-archduke-franz-ferdinand-assassinated-sparking-world-war-i-672226?\\_ga=2.44558688.510257403.1624874714-1969581575.1579377799](https://www.jpost.com/international/on-this-day-archduke-franz-ferdinand-assassinated-sparking-world-war-i-672226?_ga=2.44558688.510257403.1624874714-1969581575.1579377799)

WW2 bunker found in Lublin

<https://www.thefirstnews.com/article/lublin-builders-find-nazi-bunker-during-underground-carpark-construction-23176>

## Nautical news

Searching for HMSs *Cornwall* and *Thetis*

<https://thevoiceslu.com/2021/07/french-archaeologists-searching-for-ancient-wrecks-in-st-lucia/>

The search for the *Endurance* begins again

[https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/jul/05/antarctic-expedition-renew-search-shackleton-ship-endurance?CMP=Share\\_iOSApp\\_Other](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/jul/05/antarctic-expedition-renew-search-shackleton-ship-endurance?CMP=Share_iOSApp_Other)

## Museum news and exhibitions

### News

US National Parks get funding boost

<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/news/biden-s-boost-for-national-park-heritage>

UK organizations receive emergency funding

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/60-million-to-protect-our-national-heritage>

Feature on Wisconsin's Castlerock Museum

<https://spectrumnews1.com/wi/green-bay/news/2021/07/03/wisconsin-s-world-class-collection-of-medieval-arms-and-armor>

### New museums

Grant for a permanent display of the Woodman Higgins Collection

<https://eu.telegram.com/story/entertainment/2021/06/30/worcester-art-museum-receives-400-000-grant-higgins-armor-gallery/7810098002/>

Humboldt Forum finally opens

<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/news/humboldt-forum-to-open-finally-for-real>

## **Museum musings**

A world without museums

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/gb/blog/about-thinking/202107/imagine-world-without-museums>

Controversial statue removed in Charlottesville

<https://artdaily.com/news/137433/Charlottesville-removes-statue-at-center-of-2017-white-nationalist-rally>

Peabody Museum returns pipe tomahawk

<https://nativenewsonline.net/currents/harvard-repatriates-pipe-tomahawk-to-ponca-tribe-of-nebraska>

## **Conservation corner**

Caring for Strawberry Hill's historic library

<https://artdaily.com/news/137652/Conservation-in-action--Cleaning-Horace-Walpole-s-library>

## **Objects**

Exeter Museums ask visitors for their favourite object

<https://museumcrush.org/exeters-iconic-museum-collection-objects-revealed-in-new-trail/>

How much that helmet went for....

<https://artdaily.com/news/137187/Thomas-Del-Mar-achieves-world-record-price-of--pound-120-000-for-Renaissance-helmet>

Rusty old gun found in Canadian river

<https://www.saltwire.com/halifax/news/local/fall-river-man-finds-old-gun-under-water-100611634/>

Haarlem buys a new painting

<https://artdaily.com/news/137464/Frans-Hals-Museum-acquires-Dirck-Hals-and-Dirck-van-Delen-masterpiece>

Williamsburg acquire a Washington medal

<https://artdaily.com/news/137447/Rare-George-Washington-Indian-peace-medal-acquired-by-the-Art-Museums-of-Colonial-Williamsburg>

## **Exhibitions**

Grinling Gibbons at Compton Verney in the autumn

<https://museumcrush.org/grinling-gibbons-life-and-legacy-celebrated-at-compton-verney/>

Travels with Durer in Aachen

<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/preview/a-renaissance-road-trip-with-albrecht-duerer>

Italian triptych at the Getty

<https://artdaily.com/news/137474/Getty-exhibition-reassembles-Medieval-Italian-triptych>

## Books

Michael P. Warner: *The Agincourt Campaign of 1415: The Retinues of the Dukes of Clarence and Gloucester*

<https://boydellandbrewer.com/9781783276363/the-agincourt-campaign-of-1415/>

Jason Edwards, Amy Harris and Greg Sullivan: *Monuments of St Paul's Cathedral 1796-1916*

<https://scalapublishers.com/monuments-of-st-pauls-cathedral-1796-1916/>

Kennie Ting: *Asian Civilisations Museum: Director's Choice*

<https://scalapublishers.com/asian-civilizations-museum/>

*Art et diplomatie. Œuvres japonaises du château de Fontainebleau - Catalogue d'exposition*

<https://www.boutiquesdemusees.fr/fr/catalogues-d-exposition/art-et-diplomatie-oeuvres-japonaises-du-chateau-de-fontainebleau-catalogue-d-exposition/23633.html?r=L2ZyL2NhZGVhdXgvNS1jYXRhbG9ndWVzLWV4cG9zaXRpb24vMS8%253D>

This month's Ospreys

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

Pen and Sword

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

## Online book

Rijksmuseum Bulletin available online

<https://artdaily.com/news/137643/Rijksmuseum-scientific-journal-now-available-to-all-online>

## Events

Summer in Scottish castles

<https://www.medievalists.net/2021/07/castlefest-launched-in-scotland/>

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/)

## **Sales, fairs and auctions**

27 Aug Los Angeles

The Early West

<https://www.bonhams.com/auctions/27262/>

## **Websites and downloads**

Latest ICOMAM MAGAZINE: remembering Claude Gaier, arms and armour displays around the world, an admiral's sword and gunfounding in the time of plague

<http://icomam.mini.icom.museum/the-magazine/?fbclid=IwAR1BVPaJGULMEOPJJtj4XhdBBQ1y3z8xPlm7vCL3hz-eeemHlejGKlh7esq>

## **1066 etc**

Writing knights, crusades, & Anglo-Saxon cave dwellers

<https://www.medievalists.net/2021/07/books-by-knights/>

<https://www.medievalists.net/2021/06/theatres-of-war-crusade-colonialism-and-chivalry-in-the-middle-ages/> <https://www.medievalists.net/2021/07/was-this-9th-century-cave-the-home-to-king-eardwulf/>

## **Finally**

I will be tweeting some Scottish-related material

<https://twitter.com/Basiliscoe>

**Compiled by Ruth Rhynas Brown – 21 July 2021**