

The Basiliscae Mercury 368

The Internet newsletter for the arms and armour community

Philadelphia restores a renaissance shield to the Czech Republic, Scottish museum given a collection of Roman military objects and a gadling is found in the Thames.

Arms and armour in the news

Ancient arms

Arrowhead found in alligator's stomach

<https://eu.usatoday.com/story/sports/2021/09/10/prehistoric-native-american-arrowhead-artifact-found-alligator-mississippi/8271061002/>

Bronze Age axe found in burial

<https://www.theguardian.com/science/2021/sep/10/rare-bronze-age-coffin-found-golf-course-pond-axe>

Feature on the early Greek tomb of the Griffin warrior

<https://greekreporter.com/2021/09/10/griffin-warrior-ancient-greece/>

More on the sax found in Poland

<https://scienceinpoland.pap.pl/en/news/news%2C88972%2Crare-scandinavian-combat-knife-found-poland.html>

Warrior found with weapons and horse in Kent

<https://www.kentonline.co.uk/deal/news/bodies-found-in-dig-near-new-homes-253507/>

Battles, towers and forts

Alderney's Roman fort and German bunker made easy

<https://www.heritagedaily.com/2021/09/archaeologists-unravel-the-history-of-alderneys-roman-fort/141278>

Archaeologists excavate the Bactrian fortress of Uzundara

<https://www.heritagedaily.com/2021/09/archaeologists-excavate-the-bactrian-fortress-of-uzundara/141324>

Roman military finds from Utrecht

<https://www.dutchnews.nl/news/2021/09/roman-finds-in-limes-area-in-utrecht-unique-in-the-world/>

Beasts of assorted varieties...

Hawking ring found in Kent

<https://www.kentonline.co.uk/sheerness/news/detectorist-finds-treasure-252802/>

Bringing back woolly mammoths

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/these-scientists-plan-to-fully-resurrect-a-woolly-mammoth-within-the-decade-180978655/>

Through the arrow-slit . . .

Investigating Chirk Castle

<https://www.bordercountiesadvertizer.co.uk/news/19550525.archaeologists-return-chirk-castle-historic-building-dig/>

Restoring fortresses in Iran

<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/464555/New-restoration-work-starts-on-fortresses-in-southeast-Iran>

Cannons to the left, cannon to the right

Medieval guns in Greek and Indonesia

<https://indomedieval.medium.com/blowguns-and-cannons-in-medieval-greek-27c355165f67>

Conserved cannon return to Castillo de San Marcos

<https://www.news4jax.com/news/local/2021/08/30/22-restored-cannons-return-to-castillo-de-san-marcos/>

German trophy gun gets new home

<https://www.heraldsun.com/news/local/article253912958.html>

Miscellany

Gadling found in the Thames

<https://www.mylondon.news/news/south-london-news/16-lost-treasures-unearthed-londons-21575305>

Children in warfare

<https://www.historyextra.com/period/first-world-war/how-children-used-warfare-fighting-child-soldiers/>

Living in the past

Photo essay – re-enacting

<https://www.theguardian.com/travel/2021/aug/16/britain-re-enactors-return-to-battlefields-after-covid-photo-essay>

Course on cooking 12th century sauces

<https://www.medievalists.net/2021/09/online-medieval-cookery-course-to-teach-about-12th-century-sauces/>

Princesses and Amazons

Nice, illustrated piece about Mary Beale, Suffolk portrait painter in the 17th century and a new exhibition

<https://museumcrush.org/mary-beale-17th-century-pioneering-portrait-painter/>

Intrepid lady travellers

<https://www.bbc.com/travel/article/20210825-in-the-steps-of-historys-forgotten-female-explorers>

Into the 20th century

Very long, but illustrated piece on a diary from the Siege of Mafeking

<https://www.newframe.com/long-read-sol-plaatjes-diary-120-years-later>

Interesting piece on the Arundel Bomber

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/history/article/veterans-dug-up-a-wwii-bomber-in-hopes-of-finding-peace>

Feature on the Maunsell Forts

<https://www.heritagedaily.com/2021/09/restoring-the-abandoned-maunsell-sea-forts/141398>

Nautical news

The *Sao Bento* and its cowries

<https://www.modernghana.com/news/1101808/small-seashells-tell-a-big-story-of-slavery-and.html>

Early 18th century shipwreck on the US Virgin Islands investigated

<https://stthomassource.com/content/2021/09/07/divers-explore-historic-shipwreck-in-coral-bay-harbor/>

Minesweeper HMS *Mercury* lost 1940, found in Irish Sea

<https://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/news/2021-09-02/discovery-minesweeper-hms-mercury>

The *Gothenburg* sails again...

<https://edition.cnn.com/travel/article/gotheborg-ii-ship-sweden-asia-intl-hnk/index.html>

Museum news and exhibitions

News

Arrests in the Dresden museum heist

<https://artdaily.com/news/138975/Six-Germans-charged-over-spectacular-Dresden-museum-heist>

Canadian visitors queuing to see Rembrandts

<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/news/rembrandt-blockbuster-draws-75-000-visitors-to-national-gallery-of-canada>

New museums

Museum of Roman history in Scotland gifted collection of military artefacts

<https://www.scotsman.com/heritage-and-retro/heritage/donor-shares-incredible-collection-of-artefacts-with-new-museum-of-roman-invasion-of-scotland-3366029>

Museum developments

3d Helmet

<http://sikhsangat.org/2021/akali-turban-in-3d/>

Using museum objects for teaching students

<https://news.usask.ca/articles/colleges/2021/neanderthal-hand-axes-connect-usask-students-to-the-past.php>

Museum musings

Statues again....

<https://artdaily.com/news/139174/Flashpoint-US-statue-of-Confederate-general-removed-in-Richmond>

More than 2,200 Sámi artefacts returned by the National Museum of Finland

<https://www.arctictoday.com/more-than-200-sami-artifacts-are-returned-by-the-national-museum-of-finland/>

Netherlands' Golden coach still divisive

<https://artdaily.com/news/139111/Colonial-era-royal-carriage-stirs-up-modern-backlash-in-Netherlands>

Conservation corner - this week all fake...

This week the Vinland map is back to being a fake

<https://news.yale.edu/2021/09/01/analysis-unlocks-secret-vinland-map-its-fake>

And museums, fakes and forgeries

<https://www.kuer.org/arts-culture-entertainment/2021-09-17/are-there-forges-at-the-museum-yes-and-byu-researchers-arent-surprised>

Objects

Philadelphia returns Italian parade shield to Czech Republic; fascinating story

<https://artdaily.com/news/139324/Philadelphia-Museum-of-Art-and-the-Czech-Republic-announce-the-return-of-an-Italian-pageant-shield>

Feature on powder horns

https://www.berkshireagle.com/opinion/columnists/carole-owens-carved-in-bone-and-steeped-in-history/article_625df59a-0a94-11ec-8fc3-b7ee72f2afe2.html

Napoleon's hat - another one...

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/sep/06/newly-discovered-napoleon-hat-with-his-dna-up-for-auction>

The first Victoria Cross

<https://www.countrylife.co.uk/comment-opinion/curious-questions-who-was-the-first-to-receive-the-victoria-cross-232222>

Items including shield returned to Ethiopia

<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/news/maqdala-ethiopia-ambassador>

Exhibitions

Tudor portraits from the National Gallery to go on tour while museum is closed

<https://artdaily.com/news/139288/National-Portrait-Gallery-s-iconic-Tudor-and-Bloomsbury-portraits-to-go-on-tour>

Medieval manuscripts at St Albans

<https://museumcrush.org/st-albans-stunning-medieval-illuminated-manuscripts-return-to-the-city/>

Botticelli and his workshop in Paris

<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/preview/laboratory-of-ideas-inside-the-botticelli-studio>

Ivory in Berlin

<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/review/terrible-beauty-elephant-human-ivory>

Books

Un palais pour l'Empereur. Napoléon Ier à Fontainebleau - Catalogue d'exposition

<https://www.boutiquesdemusees.fr/fr/catalogues-d-exposition/un-palais-pour-l-empereur-napoleon-ier-a-fontainebleau-catalogue-d-exposition/24448.html?r=L2ZyL2NhZGVhdXgvNS1jYXRhbG9ndWVzLWV4cG9zaXRpb24vMS8%253D>

Popular culture

Swords make a splash at the Met ball

<https://www.newsweek.com/elon-musks-partner-grimes-carried-sword-met-gala-story-behind-it-1629017>

GoT's swords and their users

<https://www.cbr.com/game-of-thrones-every-sword-ranked-type-user/>

New use for Woolwich arsenal

<https://www.theguardian.com/stage/2021/sep/06/punchdrunk-stage-the-burnt-city-royal-arsenal-london-arms-factory-immersive-trojan-war>

Events

Toledo Conference ICOMAM 15-19 November 2021

<https://icomam.mini.icom.museum/374/>

Websites and downloads

1066 etc: Hastings, Polish castles and fantasy swords

<https://www.medievalists.net/2021/09/battle-hastings-bow-blade/>

<https://www.medievalists.net/2021/09/archaeologists-to-look-through-remains-of-teutonic-castle/>

<https://www.medievalists.net/2021/09/robbers-break-into-polish-castle/>

<https://www.medievalists.net/2021/09/cursed-blades-and-dark-swords-in-myth-and-fantasy/>

On twitter

<https://twitter.com/Basiliscoe>

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