

# The Basilscoe Mercury 371

## The Internet newsletter for the arms and armour community

This week's exciting discoveries include a sword found in the Middle East and musical tributes to Nelson. Otherwise, investigating the Black Prince's tomb, update from the Gribshunden and a pilot recovered from his plane lost 80 years ago. And a few chilling stories for Hallowe'en...

### Arms and armour in the news

#### Ancient arms

Reinvestigating Richborough's amphitheatre – gladiators...

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-kent-59079284>

What drives military technology?

<https://www.eurekalert.org/news-releases/931988>

Excavating Seville's Roman fort

<https://bcfocus.com/the-appearance-of-the-roman-wall-solves-the-great-archaeological-mystery-of-seville/>

#### Beasts of assorted varieties...

When horses were domesticated

<https://www.sciencenews.org/article/dna-genes-modern-domestic-horses-origin-russia>

Investigating an ancient Chinese chariot

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/3152468/wheels-fit-king-chinese-archaeologists-bring-elaborate-bronze>

#### Grave stories

Excavating a Scythian warrior - nice sculpture...

<https://www.rferl.org/a/scythian-dig-ukraine-river-guardians-discovery/31507187.html>

What we learn from dead gladiators

<https://www.trtworld.com/magazine/turkey-s-gladiator-graves-tell-a-different-story-about-the-ancient-warriors-50717>

Studying the Black Prince's tomb

<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/2021/10/26/secrets-of-the-black-princes-tomb-effigy-in-canterbury-cathedral-revealed-by-scientists>

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

Plans to restore Pakistan's Nandana fort

<https://www.daijiworld.com/news/newsDisplay?newsID=885498>

Stones stolen from Yester Castle

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-edinburgh-east-fife-59010128>

Update on the work at Christiansborg, Ghana

<https://www.archaeology.org/issues/448-2111/letter-from/10077-ghana-christiansborg-castle>

Excavations at Culloden

<https://www.nts.org.uk/stories/dig-breaks-new-ground-at-culloden>

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

Vancouver's cannon falls silent

<https://www.vancouverisawesome.com/local-news/stanley-parks-9-oclock-gun-hasnt-been-firing-for-over-a-week-heres-why-4531014>

The search for lost cannon

<https://mynorthwest.com/3205566/a-treasure-hunt-for-phantom-cannons-in-the-evergreen-state/>

Perrysburg cannon

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rhGhgyp-WHE>  
[https://news.yahoo.com/ready-battle-sort-perrysburgs-iconic-030200365.html?guccounter=1&guce\\_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZ29vZ2xILmNvLnVrLw&guce\\_referrer\\_sig=AQAAAEIwodK1D4hzuRqh7ayQpPV2pgw8r86ASNeP4E0Xm6LbHHIFESFPbYX1frduAnxgmugm\\_8-22fGI11TwmJVMsimCcVlo83g4uc3DE25I2rU6XGgDyPxCAIEOybRGb\\_PF\\_BXbKsGEcl0hDs9K9uxrq0cDF\\_Zr1GsuFqYoNH6j8r](https://news.yahoo.com/ready-battle-sort-perrysburgs-iconic-030200365.html?guccounter=1&guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZ29vZ2xILmNvLnVrLw&guce_referrer_sig=AQAAAEIwodK1D4hzuRqh7ayQpPV2pgw8r86ASNeP4E0Xm6LbHHIFESFPbYX1frduAnxgmugm_8-22fGI11TwmJVMsimCcVlo83g4uc3DE25I2rU6XGgDyPxCAIEOybRGb_PF_BXbKsGEcl0hDs9K9uxrq0cDF_Zr1GsuFqYoNH6j8r)

Another cannon stolen

[https://www.postguam.com/news/local/guam-owner-of-antique-cannon-offers-reward-for-its-return/article\\_68716ebc-3307-11ec-a2c5-1f32f1369a58.html](https://www.postguam.com/news/local/guam-owner-of-antique-cannon-offers-reward-for-its-return/article_68716ebc-3307-11ec-a2c5-1f32f1369a58.html)

## **Miscellany**

Dating the Vikings in Canada

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/new-dating-method-shows-vikings-occupied-newfoundland-in-1021-ce-180978903/>

Inscribed ballista ball found in the Crusader castle of Arsuf

<https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/MAGAZINE-unique-arabic-inscription-found-on-ballista-ball-at-crusader-castle-in-israel-1.10318988>

This week's sword from the waters - a crusader sword from the sea  
<https://www.heritagedaily.com/2021/10/diver-discovers-crusader-sword/141706>

Archaeologists uncover cache of 19<sup>th</sup> century weapons in Polish basement  
<https://polandin.com/56526744/archaeologists-discover-large-antique-weapons-collection>

### **Café Basiliscoe**

Recreating garum  
<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/arts-culture/recovering-the-recipe-for-garum-180978846/>

80 year old nutcake from Lubeck  
<https://www.livescience.com/cake-mummy-found-in-germany>

With 3000 year old beer  
<https://english.radio.cz/czech-scientists-brew-beer-according-3000-year-old-recipe-8732300>

### **Princesses and Amazons**

Duelling queens  
<https://www.medievalists.net/2021/10/british-library-hosts-exhibition-on-elizabeth-i-and-mary-queen-of-scots/>

Feature on 18<sup>th</sup> century riding habits  
<https://georgianera.wordpress.com/2016/01/26/18th-century-riding-habits/>

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

Bombing Pompeii  
<https://www.openculture.com/2021/10/the-bombing-of-pompeii-during-world-war-ii.html>

And investigating a Breton tumulus destroyed in WW2  
<http://www.thehistoryblog.com/archives/62471>

And WW2 bombs still taking toll  
<https://www.vice.com/en/article/akqx55/world-war-2-bombs-manipur-india-britain-japan>

Pilot returned home after crashing plane off Croatia 80 years ago  
<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-10078149/Remains-pilot-lost-sea-WWII-buried-Maine.html>

## **Nautical news**

Update on the *Gribshunden*

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/extraordinary-500-year-old-shipwreck-rewriting-history-age-discovery-180978825/>

Mysterious wreck on Riga beach - lots of pictures

<https://www.dailystar.co.uk/news/world-news/centuries-old-40ft-shipwreck-discovered-25229095>

What they found under the mast of the HMS *Victory*

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-hampshire-58981472>

Volcanic eruptions reveal ships sunk in Japan in WW2

<https://nypost.com/2021/10/21/japanese-wwii-ships-sunk-by-us-emerge-after-volcano-tremors-lift-seabeds/>

Harwich's historic crane to be restored

<https://www.gazette-news.co.uk/news/19676350.historic-harwich-crane-restored-thanks-140k-grant/>

## **Museum news and exhibitions**

### **News**

Art crimes in time of plague

<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/2021/10/20/art-crime-flourished-during-pandemic-year-interpol-survey-shows>

How Covid has changed museums

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/10/14/arts/design/british-museums-recovery.html>

Russian museums respond to latest covid spike with restricted openings

<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/2021/10/22/russia-declares-week-of-non-working-days-following-covid-spike-reducing-museum-capacity-and-closing-cultural-venues>

### **New museums**

Stories from the Imperial War Museum new WW2 galleries

<https://museumcrush.org/personal-stories-from-the-iwms-new-second-world-war-galleries/>

### **Objects**

Set of 6 portraits of sultans for sale

<https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2021/oct/23/you-can-sense-selim-the-grims-anger-portraits-of-ottoman-sultans-go-on-show>

10 historic edged weapons

<https://www.indiatimes.com/trending/human-interest/expensive-medieval-weapons-auction-price-552686.html>

## Exhibitions

Coastal Forces at Gosport

<https://museumcrush.org/uncovering-the-perilous-story-of-the-royal-navys-coastal-forces/>

Holy Roman Empire manuscripts in NY

<https://artdaily.com/news/140262/The-Morgan-presents--Imperial-Splendor--The-Art-of-the-Book-in-the-Holy-Roman-Empire->

Armour from Higgins collection to go on show in Toledo, Ohio

<https://www.medievalists.net/2021/10/armor-toledo-museum-art/>

## Books

*Make all Sure* is back in print

<https://www.basiliscoe.com/shop/>

## Popular culture

Musical tributes to Admiral Nelson found in Museum of London

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/oct/28/musical-tributes-to-nelson-found-in-lady-hamiltons-songbooks>

And performed in the Museum of Docklands

<https://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/museum-london-docklands/whats-on/emmas-songbooks-rediscovered-music-nelson?id=293208>

## Events

### Diary Dates

What's on in Paris

<https://www.musee-armee.fr/au-programme.html>

Toledo Conference ICOMAM 15-19 November 2021

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

### Sales, fairs and auctions

Online Auction: 25 October–2 November 2021

The Samurai: Japanese Arms and Armour

<https://www.sothebys.com/en/digital-catalogues/the-samurai-japanese-arms-and-armour-1?locale=en>

22-26 Nov 2021 Herman Historica  
<https://www.hermann-historica.de/en>

## **Websites and downloads**

Kunsthistorisches Museum  
<https://www.khm.at/en/>

1066 etc: Saladin & the Crusades  
<https://www.medievalists.net/2021/10/writing-the-history-of-the-sultan-saladin/>  
<https://www.medievalists.net/2021/10/the-cross-of-war-in-the-age-of-the-crusades/>

## **Finally some Hallowe'en stories....**

Hampton Court  
<https://www.insider.com/hampton-court-palace-haunted-ghost-stories-2021-10>

The Haunted Museum  
<https://www.timesunion.com/news/article/Saratoga-Springs-History-Museum-is-haunted-16555381.php>

Walking round York with Guy Fawkes  
<https://www.nation.lk/online/inside-the-creaky-york-pub-that-s-the-birthplace-of-guy-fawkes-133861.html>

Gruesome story of the death of Chinese tomb raider  
<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/2021/10/28/ancient-tomb-raider-murder-mystery-uncovered-in-china>

Medieval ghosts  
<https://www.medievalists.net/2021/10/ghosts-in-medieval-literature/>

MR James: A warning to the Curious  
[https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/A\\_Warning\\_to\\_the\\_Curious](https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/A_Warning_to_the_Curious)

**Compiled by Ruth Rhynas Brown – 31 October 2021**  
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