

The Basiliscope Mercury 390

The Internet newsletter for the arms and armour community

Fascinating arrow from the icefields, a whaler in Patagonia and new books. Winter must be coming...

Arms and armour in the news

Ancient arms

Latest find from the glaciers - an arrow

<https://www.heritagedaily.com/2022/08/glacial-archaeologists-find-arrow-in-melting-ice/144475>

Sound as a weapon

<https://theconversation.com/from-whistling-arrows-and-trumpeting-elephants-to-battle-cries-and-eerie-horns-ancient-soldiers-used-sound-to-frighten-and-confuse-their-enemies-182116>

New uses for boomerangs

<https://phys.org/news/2022-08-wood-sharpens-stone-boomerangs-retouch.html>

Beasts of assorted varieties...

Did America's horses survive shipwreck?

<https://beta.nsf.gov/news/oldest-dna-domesticated-american-horse-lends-credence-shipwreck-theory>

Grave stories

DNA of the Griffin Warrior

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2022/08/220825163957.htm>

Bones of 11th century king of Hungary identified

<http://www.thehistoryblog.com/archives/64955>

Pogrom in Norwich

<https://www.medievalists.net/2022/08/jewish-mass-burial/>

Reflections on the discovery 10 years ago of Richard III

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-leicestershire-62605305>

Through the arrow-slit . . .

New exhibition about Launceston Castle

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/aug/18/cornwall-launceston-castle-exhibition>

Saving Crathes Castle's painted ceilings

<https://www.nts.org.uk/stories/crathes-painted-ceilings-project-an-introduction>

Feature on Fort Belan

<https://www.dailypost.co.uk/news/north-wales-news/isolated-gwynedd-beach-stunning-views-24790496>

Cannons to the left, cannon to the right

Washington Artillery Park Memorial cannon moved

https://news.yahoo.com/washington-artillery-park-memorial-cannon-235008909.html?guccounter=1&guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZ29vZ2xILmNvLnVrLW&guce_referrer_sig=AQAAAHfC6KEuNdBT2FeC-WsK4raiBQX4v18DiADdNO-0KojZro9g2pU6MqFXhIJrc6ptM5llcwhC1MdUO8RMMY4sUMa3dCudxYq6_fXgbIF8NO74MVbaDVJcOIAwVKrtXWAOwgTTOnt7vGvXmdYUUrBmokxZNH6NLmTgwNa_NIE06Xw

A short history of fake cannon

<https://grantpiperwriting.medium.com/the-age-old-tradition-of-deploying-fake-artillery-4181b44333e1>

Miscellany

Chevalier D'Eon's sword

<https://www.yorkshireeveningpost.co.uk/whats-on/arts-and-entertainment/leeds-2023-hidden-stories-the-extraordinary-1700s-trans-woman-and-spy-whose-sword-is-displayed-at-the-royal-armouries-3806991>

What the heatwaves around the world are revealing

<https://phys.org/news/2022-08-extreme-uncovers-lost-villages-ancient.html>

Living in the past

Re-enacting the middle ages

<https://www.medievalists.net/2022/08/bringing-the-middle-ages-to-life-reenactments-and-costuming/>

Re-enacting in Russia

<https://www.taipeitimes.com/News/feat/archives/2022/08/25/2003784115>

Café Basiliscoe – the bar’s open!

Glenlivet - a very good vintage

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/20668291.glenlivet-distillery-dig-whisky-making-process-200-years-ago-revealed/>

Or Mesopotamian beer

<https://bigthink.com/the-past/brewing-ancient-beer/>

Served in a medieval tavern

<https://www.theguardian.com/science/2022/aug/28/suspected-medieval-alehouse-unearthed-east-yorkshire>

Nautical news

Ship’s ram raised off Sicilian coast

<https://www.ragusanews.com/attualita-battaglie-egadi-recuperato-rostro-bronzo-nave-romana-163469/>

USS *Jacob Jones* (lost 1917) found off Cornish coast

<https://artdaily.com/news/149178/U-S--ship-sunk-by-Germans-in-1917-is-found-off-English-coast#.YwCj7C7MKUk>

19th century whaler identified off Patagonia

<https://phys.org/news/2022-08-scientists-shipwreck-patagonia-long-lost-1850s.html>

Can’t remember if I included this figurehead last time

<http://www.thehistoryblog.com/archives/64893>

What falling river levels are revealing

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/europes-drought-exposes-ancient-stones-world-war-two-ships-waters-fall-2022-08-20/?rpc=401&>

Bit of a cannon (maybe...) washes up on Spanish beach

<https://theleader.info/2022/08/24/antique-canon-washes-up-on-santa-pola-beach/>

Carronade to form part of memorial to HMS *Racehorse*, lost off Man 1822

<https://www.manxradio.com/news/isle-of-man-news/plans-for-memorial-to-ship-which-sank-off-langness-200-years-ago/>

Museum news and exhibitions

News

ICOM decide on what is a museum

<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/2022/08/24/what-is-a-museum-icom-finally-decides-on-a-new-definition>

Rising energy prices affect museums, too
<https://www.theguardian.com/culture/2022/aug/31/uk-museums-rising-energy-costs-could-hamper-warm-banks-plan>

New museums

National Museum of Afghanistan re-opens
<https://www.npr.org/2022/08/14/1117421088/under-taliban-guard-afghanistans-national-museum-has-reopened>

China's Palace Museums
<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/politics/article/3185807/hong-kong-taiwan-beijing-3-palace-museums-and-chinese-cultural>

How to remember D-Day...
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/aug/29/d-day-tribute-or-theme-park-battle-rages-over-normandy-plan>

Museum musings

Glasgow Museum returns sword to India
<https://telanganatoday.com/scotland-museum-signs-deal-to-return-7-ancient-artefacts-to-india>

Conservation corner

Paint of the Night Watch
<https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2022/aug/24/rembrandts-night-watch-paint-recipe-offers-clues-to-the-perfect-wall-filler>

Objects

Indian Mutiny Victoria Cross to be sold
<https://artdaily.com/news/149144/Noonans-to-sell-Thomas-Henry-Kavanagh-s-famous-Indian-Mutiny-Victoria#.Yv87IC7MKUk>

Nantucket historical society receives sword of naval hero
<https://artdaily.com/news/149250/Nantucket-Historical-Association-gifted-Naval-officers-sword-with-island-ties#.YwSDkS7MKUk>

Historic firearms sold
<https://www.thescarboroughnews.co.uk/news/people/yorkshire-farmer-finds-historic-artifacts-in-gun-cabinet-3816369>

Exhibitions

Secrets of Vermeer in Washington
<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/2022/08/15/tests-reveal-secrets-of-four-vermeer-paintingsincluding-whether-they-are-authenticin-washington-dc-show>

Early American music in Williamsburg

<https://artdaily.com/news/149159/Drumroll--please----Making-Music-in-Early-America--opens-at-the-Art-Museums-of-Colonial-Williamsburg#.YwCjWy7MKUk>

18th century pastels in LA

<https://artdaily.com/news/149450/Getty-Museum-presents-18th-century-pastels#.Yw23YC7MKUk>

Books

Editors: Anne Curry and Susan Jenkins: ***The Funeral Achievements of Henry V at Westminster Abbey: The Arms and Armour of Death***

<https://boydellandbrewer.com/9781783277179/the-funeral-achievements-of-henry-v-at-westminster-abbey/>

Pre-publication offer: Tobias Capwell: ***Armour of the English Knight: Continental Armour in England 1435-1500***

<https://www.olympiaauctions.com/about-us/publications/armour-of-the-english-knight-continental-armour-in-england-1435-1500-by-tobias-capwell/>

Online Book

Sale on Osprey E-Books

<https://ospreypublishing.com/>

Popular culture

Feature on the rebus

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/heraldic-rebus-puzzle>

Treason - the musical

<https://www.theguardian.com/stage/2022/aug/23/the-gunpowder-plot-goes-grime-treason-the-musical-in-concert-review-theatre-royal-drury-lane>

Guy Fawkes - the comedy

<https://www.yorktheatroyal.co.uk/show/guy-fawkes/>

Richard III film

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2022/aug/28/royal-row-erupts-over-steve-coogan-film-about-richard-iii>

<https://www.theguardian.com/film/2022/aug/24/richard-iii-leicester-car-park-steve-coogan-philippa-langley-lost-king>

Events

Diary Dates

Landmark's Crownhill Fort open days

<https://www.landmarktrust.org.uk/crownhill-fort/crownhill-fort-whats-on/>

Royal Artillery Museum open days

https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/visiting/event/royal-artillery-museum-stores?fbclid=IwAR0nT_dIRTkFERnoXq69Avnt-8Z1cVjU6MH3cOQ3tVwV6OvpSn33CFJQnM

Conferences

17-18 October 2022 London

Armourers & Brasiers Company/Arms and Armour Society 700th anniversary conference, Armourers Hall, London

<https://zfrmz.eu/NTJUW56JEuJHLD5u27uL>

Sales, fairs and auctions

Upcoming sale in Marlborough, MA, on arms and militaria

<https://artdaily.com/news/149186/Rare--historic-powder-horns--swords-and-pistols-featured-at-Bonhams-Skinner#.YwCkkS7MKUk>

My twitter account

<https://twitter.com/Basiliscoe>

Compiled by Ruth Rhynas Brown – 31 August 2022