

The Basiliscoe Mercury 404

The Internet newsletter for the arms and armour community

The Coronation special, with king's champions, swords and state and the Black Prince's ruby. For those who have heard enough of the coronating, Roman camps, lots of castles and cannon and a new Viking Ship burial. Bring on the Coronation Quiche...

Arms and armour in the news

Ancient arms and forts

Things found in glaciers

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/25-things-found-frozen-in-europes-mountain-ice>

Where is Alexander the Great?

<https://www.livescience.com/where-is-alexander-the-greats-tomb>

New fortlet found on the Antonine Wall

<https://www.heritagedaily.com/2023/04/remains-of-roman-fortlet-discovered-next-to-antonine-wall/147001>

Richborough's roman gate reconstructed

<https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/about-us/search-news/pr-2000-year-old-roman-gateway-reconstructed-at-richborough-roman-fort/>

Roman marching camps found in the desert

<https://phys.org/news/2023-04-roman-military-archaeologists-google-earth.html>

Part of London's roman wall gets protection

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2023/may/03/roman-wall-city-of-london-given-protected-status>

Beasts of assorted varieties...

Investigating Dartmoor's hunter gathers

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-devon-65337585>

Domesticating reindeer

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-023-33422-6>

Two 17th century hawking rings found in Norfolk

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-norfolk-65276638>

Through the arrow-slit . . .

Caernarvon Castle gets major (un-English) makeover

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2023/apr/27/caernarfon-castles-5m-revamp-takes-its-story-beyond-english-imperialism>

Buying a castle for a pound

<https://www.theguardian.com/money/2023/apr/22/the-life-changing-thing-i-bought-for-1-pound>

Buying a castle for considerably more

<https://www.theguardian.com/money/2023/may/03/a-castle-fit-for-royalty-could-be-yours-if-you-have-8m-to-spare>

Feature on Norwich's defences

<https://www.edp24.co.uk/news/23487327.history-cow-tower-black-tower-norwich-explained/>

Part of Brussels town wall found in metro construction

<https://www.thebulletin.be/works-brussels-metro-line-turn-archaeological-treasures>

Krakow's medieval gate uncovered

<https://www.thefirstnews.com/article/remains-of-krakows-mediaeval-szewska-gate-found-by-builders-38087>

Through the gunloop...

Restoring Castle of Zakynthos

<https://www.ekathimerini.com/culture/1209167/studies-for-restoration-of-castle-of-zakynthos-completed/>

Wales's Chapel Bay fort

<https://www.westerntelegraph.co.uk/news/23471812.chapel-bay-forts-restoration-military-museum/>

London's secret fortress

<https://londonist.com/london/secret/what-is-the-concrete-box-on-the-mall>

Cannons to the left, cannon to the right

Cannon ball run...in Bolton

<https://metro.co.uk/2023/04/30/magnet-fishers-reel-in-record-find-of-more-than-300-cannon-balls-18673408/>

Louisiana's' Maritime Museum gets a cannon

https://www.nola.com/news/communities/st_tammany/boom-baby-maritime-museum-gets-historic-cannon-found-in-new-orleans/article_833c7006-df0f-11ed-b2d2-1f814274dd84.html

WWI German trophy fires its last salute in New Zealand

<https://www.odt.co.nz/regions/southland/ww1-cannon-be-fired-last-time>

Miscellany

Feature on Roger Bacon

<https://www.ancient-origins.net/history-famous-people/roger-bacon-0018320>

Watch out for that pipe stem...

<https://theconversation.com/researchers-discover-18th-century-clay-tobacco-pipes-were-used-as-weapons-and-surgical-tools-204295>

Surveying the site of the battle of Marston Moor

<https://www.yorkshirepost.co.uk/heritage-and-retro/heritage/battle-of-marston-moor-archaeological-drone-survey-reveals-possible-remains-of-burial-pits-from-civil-war-battle-in-yorkshire-4119964>

Celebrating Andy Deane

<https://www.yorkshirepost.co.uk/news/people/royal-armouries-the-knight-from-yorkshire-whos-hanging-up-his-spurs-after-30-years-4106048>

Café Basiliscoe

Wine like Julius Caesar used to drink

<https://www.heritagedaily.com/2023/04/archaeologists-uncover-2000-year-old-roman-winery/146986#:~:text=A%20team%20of%20archaeologists%20have,the%20highest%20echelons%20of%20society.>

Recreating the feast of king Midas

<https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2023/apr/12/midas-meal-archaeology-group-to-recreate-2700-year/>

Princesses and Amazons

Princesses and the great wall of China

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/ancient-princesses-helped-build-vast-warrior-empire-that-prompted-china-to-erect-the-great-wall>

Shield maidens

<https://www.thecollector.com/shieldmaidens-berserkers-fact-fiction/>

Into the 20th century

Conservation of Cosford's Wellington nearing completion

<https://artdaily.com/news/156724/Rare-example-of-Second-World-War-Bomber-unveiled-after-decade-of-conservation>

Protecting WW2 memorials

<https://artdaily.com/news/156790/Germans-protect-4-000-memorials-to-Soviet-troops-who-defeated-Nazis>

Dutch village ends hunt for Nazi treasure

<https://artdaily.com/news/156917/A-Dutch-quest-for-buried-Nazi-treasure-comes-up-empty>

Nautical news

Another new Viking ship burial found in Norway

<https://sciencenorway.no/archaeology-viking-age-vikings/new-discovery-of-a-viking-ship-in-norway/2187930>

Story of HMS *DeBraak*,

<https://www.capegazette.com/article/hms-debraak-ill-fated-sea-and-salvage/256686>

Connecticut submarine found

<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2023/apr/19/submarine-defender-wreckage-found-connecticut-1907-simon-lake>

Museum news and exhibitions

News

Hartlepool's Heugh battery awarded funding

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-tees-65239410>

Visitors returning to Welsh monuments (I know - I am one of them!)

<https://www.medievalists.net/2023/04/visitors-are-returning-to-medieval-welsh-sites-cadw-reports/>

New museums

Dean Castle re-opens

<https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/23492561.peek-inside-newly-restored-dean-castle---now-free-visit/>

New museum for Spain's Royal Collections

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/may/01/madrid-museum-of-royal-collections-art-spain>

Museum musings

Curating a war in progress

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/apr/22/curating-the-war-kyiv-ukraine-museum-exhibits-objects-left-by-russian-soldiers>

Seeing both side of the Troubles

<https://www.theguardian.com/culture/2023/apr/30/imperial-war-museum-to-exhibit-conflicting-perspectives-on-troubles>

Conservation corner

Investigating portrait of Medici in armour

<https://arkeonews.net/synchrotron-technique-reveals-mysterious-portrait-underneath-renaissance-painting/>

Books

David Grann: *The Wager: A Tale of Shipwreck, Mutiny and Murder*

https://www.amazon.com/Wager-Tale-Shipwreck-Mutiny-Murder/dp/0385534264?crd=2UBFX627XPZNS&keywords=The+Wager:+A+Tale+of+Shipwreck,+Mutiny,+and+Murder&qid=1682081407&srefix=the+wager+a+tale+of+shipwreck,+mutiny,+and+murder,aps,93&sr=8-1&linkCode=sl1&tag=katiecouric07-20&linkId=2c132fa62609dbbf152e28552e90c43a&language=en_US&ref=as_li_ss_tl

18th century lady's life at sea

<https://www.timescolonist.com/islander/sailing-with-captain-barkley-frances-barkleys-18th-century-sea-voyage-6929346>

New books from Osprey

<https://ospreypublishing.com/uk/discover/available-this-month/>

Popular culture

Falklands installation at Fort Nelson

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2023/apr/20/falklands-war-art-installation-portsmouth-standing-with-giants>

Diary Dates

Arms and Armour Society events

https://thearmsandarmoursociety.org/?page_id=62

Conferences

12-13 May 2023 Norwich

HMS *Gloucester*

<https://www.gloucestershipwreck.co.uk/conference-announcement>
https://www.gloucestershipwreck.co.uk/files/ugd/e3580b_5dcb8e74a23c41b08f6c1735eee5abfe.pdf

Sales, fairs and auctions

3 -10 May 2023 London

The Samurai: Japanese Arms and Armour

<https://www.sothebys.com/en/buy/auction/2023/the-samurai-japanese-arms-and-armour?locale=en>

6-12 May 2023 Munich

Arms and armour

<https://www.hermann-historica.de/de/auctions>

18 May 2023 London

Samurai, Beauties, and Townsmen: Japanese Art in Peace and War

<https://www.bonhams.com/auction/28478/samurai-beauties-and-townsmen-japanese-art-in-peace-and-war/?page=2>

24 May 2023 London

Antique Arms and Armour Including The Ray Wilkinson Collection

<https://www.bonhams.com/auction/28726/antique-arms-and-armour-including-the-ray-wilkinson-collection/>

<https://artdaily.com/news/156910/Rare-coin-shot-by-Annie-Oakley-at-Bonhams-Arms-and-Armour-sale-in-Knightsbridge>

28 June London

Antique Arms, Armour & Militaria

<https://www.olympiaauctions.com/auctions-valuations/auction-calendar/>

Websites and downloads

US Naval newsletter

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Tuesday-Tidings-Newsletter.html?soid=1138974103528&aid=O322MrzcUII>

1066 etc: 100 years war, Beowulf & Babur

<https://www.medievalists.net/2023/04/ireland-scotland-hundred-years-war/>

<https://www.medievalists.net/2023/04/beowulf-king-cnut/>

<https://www.medievalists.net/2023/04/baburnama-afghan-history/>

Focus on the Coronation: King's Champion, swords and bling

The Dymokes reclaim their position as King's Champion for the coronation

<https://www.romfordrecorder.co.uk/news/national/23486685.farmer-former-childrens-tv-presenter-take-ceremonial-coronation-roles/>

More on the king's champion at the coronation

<https://www.ancient-origins.net/news-general/kings-champion-0018357>

The stone of Destiny

<https://the-past.com/shorts/the-picture-desk/deciphering-the-stone-of-destiny/>

Regalia

<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/2023/05/02/the-stone-of-destiny-the-black-princes-ruby-sacred-oil-from-jerusalem-some-of-the-mystical-ingredients-for-the-crowning-of-charles-iii>

Coronation robes

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2023/may/01/king-charless-used-clothes-palace-details-vestments-for-coronation>

Finally

If you have something for the next ICOMAM Magazine, please send it in now!

<https://icomam.mini.icom.museum/the-magazine/>

On Twitter

<https://twitter.com/Basiliscoe>

Compiled by Ruth Rhynas Brown – 4 May 2023