

The Basiliscae Mercury 421

The Internet newsletter for the arms and armour community

Number of stories relating to armour in the news, from a newly discovered pikeman's tasset to an Ethiopian shield. Interesting find from the bottom of a lake in Lithuania and Shogun back on the small screen

Arms and armour in the news

Ancient arms

How to choose your stone weapons

<https://phys.org/news/2024-02-physical-quantify-quality-stones-tools.html>

5000 year old graves with weapons found in Italy

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/copper-age-necropolis-unearthed-in-italy-contains-skeletal-remains-and-still-sharp-weapons-maybe-from-ancient-warriors>

Hoard of bronze age axe heads found in Essex

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-essex-68293004>

Bronze age dagger found in Poland

<https://www.heritagedaily.com/2024/02/rare-copper-dagger-found-in-polish-forest/150660>

Cache of iron age weapons found in Poland

<https://www.ancient-origins.net/news-history-archaeology/germanic-tribe-weapons-poland-0020414>

How the Romans defended their fort

<https://www.heritagedaily.com/2024/02/roman-defensive-spikes-unveiled-at-the-leibniz-centre-for-archaeology/150840>

Hungarian warrior buried in lamellar armour excavated

<https://www.heritagedaily.com/2024/02/avar-warrior-found-buried-with-lamellar-armour/150426>

Beasts of assorted varieties...

Mammoths in Poland

<https://www.newsweek.com/hundreds-mammoth-bones-prehistoric-remains-found-paradise-cave-1872885>

Grave stories

Investigating the life and death of a 5000 year murder victim in Denmark
<https://www.sciencealert.com/bones-reveal-bog-mans-secret-life-before-his-violent-end-in-a-foreign-land>

Medieval soldier's remains recovered from Lithuanian lake
<https://www.ancient-origins.net/news-history-archaeology/medieval-soldier-lithuania-0014532>

Through the arrow-slit . . .

Appleby castle for sale
https://www.mansionglobal.com/articles/an-800-year-old-medieval-english-castle-once-home-to-richard-ii-listed-for-9-5-million-2edaa131?fbclid=IwAR1wY1yIr4cO6JYjBiU864GA61ZTqjR9yli4ncn_IS7d-TP7eopfWh9q8wk

Excavating Castle Cornet
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-guernsey-68372938>

Cannons to the left, cannon to the right

Solving a Civil War cannon mystery
<https://linknky.com/culture/2024/02/18/civil-war-cannons-evergreen-cemetery/>

Iron gun found in Macau
<https://www.macaupostdaily.com/article20728.html>

Miscellany

17th century tasset found in Maryland
<https://bnnbreaking.com/history/rare-17th-century-armor-unearthed-a-glimpse-into-early-colonial-america>
<https://macaudailytimes.com.mo/ic-to-keep-historic-cannon-barrel-for-inspection.html>

Princesses and Amazons

Jemima and her pitchfork remembered in Wales
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2024/feb/24/welsh-woman-who-took-on-french-invaders-with-pitchfork-wins-recognition>

Into the 20th century

Parts of Plymouth evacuated after WW2 bomb found in garden
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-devon-68385962>

Nautical news

Columbia to begin work on the *San Jose*

<https://thesaxon.org/colombia-the-treasure-of-the-legendary-spanish-galleon-san-jose-soon-brought-to-the-surface/>

Identifying slave ships in the Bahamas

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/14-wrecks-that-expose-what-life-was-like-on-slaver-ships-identified-in-the-bahamas>

Bell recovered from 1st US naval casualty of WWI

<https://www.forces.net/heritage/naval-history/british-divers-recover-historic-bell-wreck-first-us-navy-destroyer-sunk>

Museum news and exhibitions

News

Worrying future for Idaho gun collection

<https://www.idahostatesman.com/opinion/from-the-opinion-editor/article284601130.html>

New museums

New displays at Malbork

<https://www.medievalists.net/2024/02/pieces-of-medieval-history-return-to-malbork-in-poland/>

Museum of Berlin's unwanted sculptures

<https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2024/feb/23/stadtgeschichtliches-museum-spandau-berlin-exhibition-statues>

Museum developments

New Weapons Hall in Muncaster Castle

<https://www.newsandstar.co.uk/news/24132154.discover-medieval-weapons-muncaster-castles-new-weapons-hall/>

Museum musings

Now Easter Island wants its statues back

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-68332824>

Gaza's heritage underfire

<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/2024/02/29/dreams-of-rebuilding-gaza-five-culture-workers-share-their-stories>

Conservation corner

Saving traditional gun-making skills

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/chrisdorse/2024/02/16/in-austria-historic-gunmaker-aims-to-save-craftsmanship-and-wildlife/>

Uncovering medieval fakes

<https://www.medievalists.net/2024/02/unveiling-fake-medieval-art-through-science/>

And a discussion of the Vinland map

<https://www.mentalfloss.com/posts/vinland-map-hoax-controversy-history>

Objects

Is this Custer's gun?

<https://www.sweetwaternow.com/county-museum-researches-possible-custer-gun/>

Ethiopian government try to stop sale of shield

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2024/feb/27/ethiopian-government-tries-to-stop-uk-auction-of-looted-maqdala-shield>

And succeed

<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/2024/02/26/ethiopia-requests-restitution-of-shield-looted-from-maqdala-in-1868>

Exhibitions

Age of Armor reaches San Antonio

<https://artdaily.com/news/166653/Special-exhibition-tour--Age-of-Armor--is-now-showing-at-the-San-Antonio-Museum-of-Art>

Reverberatory furnaces in Miko City

<https://rekishikan--ibk-jp.translate.goog/special-event/? x tr sl=ja& x tr tl=en& x tr hl=en>

Books

The Killing Ground

<https://www.medievalists.net/2024/02/new-medieval-books-the-killing-ground/>

Godwin Vella: ***Valletta; Heritage Malta***

<https://scalapublishers.com/valletta/>

Online

ICOMAM Magazine is online – latest edition

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

Popular culture

New version of *Shogun* reaches the small screen

<https://www.kakuchopurei.com/2024/02/shogun-review-kkp/>

The Monk and the Gun is released

<https://www.journal-topics.com/articles/monk-and-the-gun-takes-aim-with-ease-at-contrasting-values/>

Everyone wants to be filmed in Ludlow Castle

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-shropshire-68286085>

Richard III filmmakers in case of suing for libel

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-leicestershire-67003060>

Events

12 March 2024, Leeds

Weapons and Society

<https://royalarmouries.org/leeds/whats-on/weapons-in-society-conference>

29 September-4 October 2024 London & UK

ICOMAM conference

<https://icomam.mini.icom.museum/icomam-2018-conference/>

Websites and downloads

1066 etc: Crusaders & Eddngton

<https://www.medievalists.net/2024/02/forgotten-crusaders/>

<https://www.medievalists.net/2024/02/the-battle-of-edington-878/>

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