

The Basiliscoe Mercury 432

The Internet newsletter for the arms and armour community

Much arms and armour in the news this week, with Celtic helmets, Minoan daggers and Japanese swords. A number of features this week relate to battles and battlefields and a new book on Malta's Armoury.

Arms and armour in the news

Ancient arms

Minoan dagger found in underwater excavations

<https://arkeonews.net/a-3600-year-old-bronze-minoan-dagger-discovered-in-antalya-underwater-excavation/>

Celtic helmet found in Poland – picture

<https://tvpworld.com/82133141/rare-celtic-helmet-from-4th-century-bc-unearthed-in-poland>

Two Vandal warrior graves and weapons found in Poland

<https://www.heritagedaily.com/2024/09/vandal-warrior-graves-discovered-in-ancient-cemetery/153370>

Latest finds from Norway's glaciers

<https://www.heritagedaily.com/2024/09/new-archaeological-discoveries-found-frozen-in-ice/153377>

Battles, towers and forts

Recent work on Abqain Fort

<https://www.labrujulaverde.com/en/2024/09/quarters-warehouses-weapons-and-a-bronze-sword-of-ramesses-ii-discovered-in-the-fort-that-protected-northern-egypt-from-the-sea-peoples/>

Roman military camp found in Swiss alps

<https://www.heritagedaily.com/2024/08/roman-military-camp-found-on-swiss-mountain/153348>

Latest research on the siege of Masada

<https://www.theguardian.com/science/article/2024/sep/04/romans-siege-wall-masada-archaeology-israel>

Hunting round the world and through the ages

How to hunt mammoths

<https://www.newsweek.com/how-prehistoric-americans-killed-mammoths-megafauna-1942469>

Grave stories

Viking Norway more violent than Viking Denmark

<https://phys.org/news/2024-08-viking-societies-norway-violent-denmark.html>

Guess what the archaeologists found when they excavated gallows in Quedlinburg...

<https://www.heritagedaily.com/2024/09/ghastly-finds-at-gallows-execution-site/153383>

On the frontlines

Glenfinnan monument

<https://www.nts.org.uk/stories/glenfinnan-monument-plaque-restored-in-time-for-anniversary>

Today's soldiers still fighting at Culloden

<https://www.nts.org.uk/stories/3rd-battalion-royal-regiment-scotland-support-cullodens-fighting-fund>

Through the arrow-slit . . .

Bungay castle needs emergency repairs

<https://www.edp24.co.uk/news/24530738.repair-works-medieval-bungay-castle-now-underway/>

Castle of Mytilene restoration progressing

<https://www.tornosnews.gr/en/greek-news/culture/50378-promotion-and-protection-works-of-castle-of-mytilene-progressing-rapidly-on-lesvos.html>

Through the gunloop...

Visit Florida's Fort Pickens

<https://eu.pnj.com/story/entertainment/2024/08/22/fort-pickens-in-pensacola-florida-brings-history-to-life/74210843007/>

San Bernardino's mysterious cannon

<https://www.sbsun.com/2024/08/26/this-old-cannon-in-san-bernardino-is-a-blast-from-the-past/>

Into the 20th century

Excavating Market Garden operation HQ

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c4gzkdewrrlo>

Excavating a WW2 practice trench in Scotland

<https://www.archaeologyscotland.org.uk/the-big-dig-a-community-excavation-with-big-aims-big-finds-and-big-impact/>

Uxbridge's Battle of Britain HQ disguised as flower garden

<https://www.forcesnews.com/heritage/wwii/raf-fighter-commands-battle-britain-bunker-was-kept-secret-flower-bed>

Lost American airman recovered from Sicilian wreck

<https://www.heritagedaily.com/2024/08/missing-wwii-usaf-airman-recovered-from-crash-site-in-sicily/153335>

Ripon's fight to save 20th century military heritage

<https://www.yorkshirepost.co.uk/heritage-and-retro/heritage/visionless-council-officers-criticised-over-efforts-to-save-military-heritage-4771105>

Nautical news

Ancient ram found off the coast of Sicily

<https://www.reuters.com/lifestyle/ancient-ram-naval-battle-between-rome-carthage-found-off-sicily-2024-08-23/>

Diving the Big Apple

<https://artdaily.com/news/173122/Diving-Into-New-York-s-murky-green-waters--searching-for-treasure>

Possible wreck off Puerto Rico discovered

<https://belatina.com/colonizers-lost-vessel-revealed-with-18th-century-spanish-shipwreck-in-puerto-rico/>

Update on the Franklin expedition and Inuit involvement

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/north/erebus-wreck-10-years-1.7314228>

Ships from the Japanese invasion of Alaska identified

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/3-shipwrecks-from-forgotten-battle-of-world-war-ii-discovered-off-remote-alaskan-island>

Museum news and exhibitions

News

Update on Cornwall's Shipwreck Museum and its collections

<https://www.museumsassociation.org/museums-journal/news/2024/08/fears-for-collection-as-shipwreck-museum-is-put-up-for-sale/>

Extra funding for the new London Museum

<https://artdaily.com/news/173677/City-of-London-Corporation-and-the-Mayor-of-London-pledge-additional--pound50-million-towards-new-London-Museum->

Historic guns stolen from Australian museum and reactivated (possibly)...

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-09-03/historic-guns-stolen-lithgow-museum/104302648>

But arrests made

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/article/2024/sep/06/lithgow-small-arms-factory-museum-robbery-men-charged-ntwnfb>

Conservation corner

Article about professional framers

<https://artdaily.com/news/173330/Why-is-custom-framing-so-expensive--One-man-investigates->

Old sword making technology, modern engineering

<https://interestingengineering.com/innovation/worlds-largest-tunnel-boring-machine-china>

Objects

17th century Japanese sword recovered from Berlin excavations

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/17th-century-japanese-sword-featuring-god-of-good-luck-unearthed-in-germany>

<https://www.heritagedaily.com/2024/08/17th-century-samurai-sword-discovered-in-berlin-excavation/153289>

Exhibitions

Next year's exhibitions at the V&A

<https://artdaily.com/news/173650/V-A-announces-new-exhibitions-for-2025-spanning-Cartier-to-Marie-Antoinette--and-design-and-disability-to-ancient-Egypt>

Gladiators coming to a museum near you...

<https://artdaily.com/news/173267/The-British-Museum-announces-new-touring-exhibition--Gladiators-of-Britain->

Bassano in Helsinki

<https://artdaily.com/news/173400/Major-works-by-Jacopo-Bassano-16th-century-master-of-the-Venetian-Renaissance-at-Sinebrychoff-Art-Museum>

Nazi looters in Amsterdam

<https://www.rijksmuseum.nl/en/whats-on/exhibitions/looted>

Books

Robert Cassar: *The Armoury Chronicles*

<https://heritagemalta.mt/store/the-armoury-chronicles/>

This months Osprey books

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

Popular culture

New film about Robin Hood?

<https://www.medievalists.net/2024/09/logan-in-tights/>

And a novel...

<https://www.medievalists.net/2024/09/cover-reveal-the-traitor-of-sherwood-forest/>

Events

Diary Dates

Online course on the Battle of Hastings

<https://www.medievalists.net/2024/08/new-online-course-on-the-battle-of-hastings/>

Diary Dates

28 September, Armourers Hall, London

Companies, craft and conflict

To book a place please use this form:

<https://bit.ly/companiescraftconflict>

Booking will close shortly; for any other enquiries contact Kay Smith at:

smithbrown@basiliscoe.com;

29 September – 4 October 2024 London & UK

ICOMAM conference - call for papers and booking opens

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

11 October 2024 Online

'Fytt for thy degree': Clothing and arming the Typical Tudor man (Online event in support of the Mendlesham armoury project)

https://www.tickettailor.com/events/medievaldressandtextilesociety/1321231?fbclid=IwZXh0bqNhZW0CMTAAAR0I0A9vQ11wkAzCKsgWifjnVzTUwW2UBfZ9NwOp7VhBF_LYhgUQaf2KSEI_aem_pjvf4NWd06HN6pb11avlA

Sales

Olympia's auctions

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

9 – 18 September 2024 London

Antique Pistols: Two English Private Collections

<https://www.bonhams.com/auction/30504/antique-pistols-two-english-private-collections/>

September 10-12 Denver Morphys sales

<https://artdaily.com/news/173175/Morphy-s-brings-fresh-to-market-trove-of-rare-and-historical-firearms-and-militaria-to-auction--Sept--10-12>

Websites and downloads

September is the Open Heritage month with events right across Europe: here's the umbrella organizations and sites which will give you the details of your country's participation – lots of choice!

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/culture-and-heritage/european-heritage-days>

<https://www.europeanheritagedays.com/EHD-Programme/About/Countries-involved>

<https://www.europeanheritagedays.com/>

<https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/whats-on.html>

1066 etc: Battlefields, battles and what to do and say there...

<https://www.medievalists.net/2024/08/medieval-marauders-the-ruthless-scavengers-of-war/>

<https://www.medievalists.net/2024/08/the-battle-of-bryn-glas-1402-bow-blade-episode-54/>

<https://www.medievalists.net/2024/08/fight-or-flee-medieval/>

<https://www.medievalists.net/2024/09/medieval-battle-speeches/>

Compiled by Ruth Rhynas Brown – 8 September 2024

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<http://www.basiliscoe.com>