

The Basiliscoe Mercury 435

The Internet newsletter for the arms and armour community

And still Gladiator-related stories are trickling in... A good week for explorers with Columbus, Shackleton and Sandy Irvine receiving attention, as well as Vikings and their ships.

Arms and armour in the news

Ancient arms, forts and battles

Jewish gladiators in Pompey?

<https://www.jpost.com/archaeology/article-823947>

Greek wall uncovered in Croatia

<https://greekreporter.com/2024/10/08/ancient-greek-defensive-wall-unearthed-croatia/>

Uncovering the Assyrians attack on Jerusalem

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/evidence-of-assyrians-conquest-of-holy-land-discovered-in-jerusalem>

Beasts of assorted varieties...

Scythian burial mound filled with horses

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/science/archaeology/siberia-burial-horses-ancient-scythian-b2625519.html>

Fashions for medieval horses

<https://thehistoryjar.com/2024/10/18/embroidery-for-horses/>

Grave stories

Investigating Ragnarök

<https://www.heritagedaily.com/2024/10/archaeologists-uncover-traces-of-real-world-ragnarok/153646>

Viking cemetery excavated in Denmark

<https://www.newsweek.com/archaeologists-find-50-well-preserved-viking-skeletons-denmark-1968628>

Christopher Columbus earns two separate stories; on his remains and origins

<https://www.newsweek.com/christopher-columbus-remains-identified-absolute-reliability-1967747>

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/ckq2049ezpko>

Shackleton's memorial moves to Dundee

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cx24vxzpn9do>

Irvine - pioneer mountaineer's foot found in boot on Everest

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cy0g2p47xd5o>

Miscellany

Chaucer and the astrolabe

<https://www.medievalists.net/2024/10/translatio-scientiae-chaucer-the-astrolabe-and-making-english-scientific/>

Scotland's Hallowe'en traditions

<https://www.nts.org.uk/stories/6-scottish-halloween-traditions>

Civil War explosives found underfloor in Dublin home

https://www.thejournal.ie/bomb-disposal-fishamble-street-6516596-Oct2024/?utm_source=shortlink

Cannons to the left, cannon to the right

Medieval gunpowder

<https://www.medievalists.net/2024/10/medieval-gunpowder-warfare/>

The mystery of West Windsor's iron cannon

<https://www.nhpr.org/2024-10-11/west-windsor-gets-rid-of-a-cannon-that-it-never-really-owned>

Forts and battles

Visiting Bahrain Fort

https://www.stripes.com/living/europe_travel/quick_trips/2024-10-17/quick-trip-bahrain-fort-museum-15474528.html

Well in time for Hallowe'en the ghostly soldier of Fort Stevens

<https://thatoregonlife.com/2024/10/the-eerie-tale-of-a-ghostly-soldier-at-fort-stevens-in-oregon/>

Archaeological investigation of Culloden begins

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c07nljmz14eo>

Princesses and Amazons

Today's amazons in Ukraine

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c62gx6rvv5wo>

Nautical news

New Viking ship burial found in Sweden

<https://www.heritagedaily.com/2024/10/burial-ground-containing-viking-age-ship-burials-discovered-in-halland-county/153700>

Investigating the origins of Scotland's Tarberts (spoiler - Viking boat)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c114y0pr70go>

Feature on Captain Vancouver

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/how-captain-george-vancouver-mapped-and-shaped-the-modern-pacific-northwest-180985233/>

HMS *Victory* to be restored with French oak

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c05gy3zz740o>

Ship from Wars of Independence identified off Greece

https://www.scubahellas.com/shipwreck-of-1821-found-at-the-bottom-of-fourka-off-halkidiki/?fbclid=IwY2xjawF_OTRleHRuA2FibQIxMQABHWXIreL3dkqwoYn5xga7ORknLkMclf0dWv9rcqJmtFQhsjUSyjZTTLT-BA_aem_nITjhSQjgkqpMHbriSYWoA

Bournemouth University identify unknown wreck in Dorset as admiralty vessel

<https://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/news/2024-10-11/dorset-shipwreck-mystery-solved>

Shackleton's *Endurance* in 3-D

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cd6qz387qjgo>

And on film

<https://www.screendaily.com/reviews/endurance-london-review/5197935.article>

HMS *Trooper* found in Greek waters

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/wwii-british-sub-that-sank-with-64-on-board-finally-found-off-greek-island>

Museum news and exhibitions

News

Florida's museums endure the hurricanes

<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/2024/10/17/florida-art-organisations-hurricanes-helene-milton-recovery>

New National Museum for Iceland?

<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/2024/10/16/iceland-plans-national-gallery-overhaul>

New museums

Cairo's National Museum reopens, a bit

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c4gdjppd18yo>

Indonesia's National Museum reopens after fire

<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/2024/10/15/indonesias-national-museum-reopens-after-devastating-fire>

Museum developments

Listening to dead animals

<https://www.theguardian.com/science/2024/oct/14/ai-gives-voice-to-dead-animals-in-cambridge-exhibition>

Museum musings

Diversifying the displays and collections at Royal Armouries

<https://www.museumsassociation.org/museums-journal/people/2024/10/working-life-were-adopting-an-ethical-people-centred-approach-to-community-engagement/>

Conservation corner

Conserving rare renaissance painting in Dublin

<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/2024/10/14/restoration-begins-on-rare-ludovico-mazzolino-painting-at-the-national-gallery-of-ireland>

Conserving Napoleonic uniform - see below for story!

<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/2024/10/18/rare-french-military-uniform-goes-on-display-in-london>

Objects

Museum of the American Revolution gets new sword

<https://artdaily.com/news/174806/Rare-sword-carried-at-Siege-of-Yorktown-donated-to-Museum-of-the-American-Revolution>

Helmet and round-shot found 100 years ago in Wellington, NZ

<https://www.thepress.co.nz/nz-news/350445124/cannonball-mysteries-bring-intriguing-historical-questions>

Account of an English PoW and his Napoleonic uniform on view at Greenwich

<https://www.theguardian.com/culture/2024/oct/18/british-navy-pows-journal-stolen-napoleonic-uniform-london>

Exhibitions

Bronze Age in Leiden

<https://artdaily.com/news/174901/The-Dutch-National-Museum-of-Antiquities-in-Leiden-turns-the-spotlight-on-the-rich-legacy-of-the-Bronze-Age>

Frans Hals in Berlin

<https://artdaily.com/news/174775/Gem-auml-ldegalerie-organizes-a-comprehensive-monographic-exhibition-dedicated-to-Frans-Hals>

Books

Alexzandra Hildred: ***Mary Rose: "Her Story, Their Story, Our Story"***

<https://museumshops.uk/product/mary-rose-coffee-table-book/>

New history of Holyrood Palace published

<https://artdaily.com/news/174935/Palace-of-Holyroodhouse-s-dramatic-past-revealed-in-first-official-history-ever-published>

Popular culture

There's a lot riding on *Gladiator II*

<https://www.theguardian.com/film/2024/oct/18/gladiator-ii-budget-folie-a-deux-ridley-scott-paul-mescal>

Dauids Blackmore's latest novel out: ***The Road to Madrid*** (vol 5)

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Road-Madrid-Wellingtons-Dragon-Book-ebook/dp/B0DK2BZ6BG?ref=ast_author_mpb

Capwell's take on *Warhammer*

<https://www.gamespot.com/videos/historian-armor-expert-reacts-to-warhammer-40k-space-marine-2s-multiplayer-weapons-armor/2300-6465313/>

An unknown Bram Stoker out in time for Hallowe'en

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2024/oct/19/dracula-ancestors-gibbet-hill-dublin-library>

Events

Diary Dates

22 October Crownhill Fort open evening

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

6th November 2024 (18:00 - 20:00) Swedish church, London
Lecture - Gribshunden 1495
angloswedishsociety.org.uk/events/?event_id=168&lang=en

Conferences

12 -13 November Nationaal Militair Museum, Soesterberg. Netherlands
Honour & Discomfort: War Booty in Museum Collections.
https://nl.linkedin.com/posts/koninklijke-defensiemusea_de-stichting-koninklijke-defensiemusea-skd-activity-7238868547911790593-ofL

Sales, fairs and auctions

26-27 October Willoughby, Ohio
Arms
<https://artdaily.com/news/174860/Milestone-aims-to-please-collectors-with-Oct-26-27-Premier-Fall-Firearms-Auction->

4-7 November Munich
<https://www.hermann-historica.de/en>

Websites and downloads

1066 etc Varangians, Urban Soldiers & 1066
<https://www.medievalists.net/2024/10/byzantine-source-harald-hardrada/>
<https://www.medievalists.net/2024/10/obligation-and-opportunity-urban-military-service-in-medieval-england/>
<https://www.medievalists.net/2024/10/hastings-unusual-battle/>

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