



Salisbury Military History Society

January 2022 eNewsletter

If you've missed any previous editions, you can find them on our website – [click here](#).

Parish Notices

Wednesday 26th January

6.30pm - AGM

The Committee invites 2020/21 full members to the AGM on Wednesday 26th January 2022. Full details were provided by email on Wednesday 5th January.

7.30pm (arrive after 7pm) - 'The Bruneval Raid, 1942' with Paul Oldfield

On the night of 27th/28th February 1942, a small group of British paratroopers was landed on the French coast by the Royal Air Force. Within a few hours they had captured and dismantled most of a German radar station and were evacuated by the Royal Navy back to Britain. [Read more](#)

Please note that this is the first talk of the new year so you may either pay £10 on the door for this talk alone or £45 for the whole year (10 talks).

We accept cash and card payments at meetings, or cheques should be made out to the 'Salisbury Military History Society'. For bank transfers, the Society's account details can be found on the [membership form here](#). As the Society has almost 50 current full members, we would prefer that annual subscriptions are paid in advance rather than everyone queuing at the front desk on 26th January. Full Members can collect their 2022 membership card at the first talk they attend in the new year.

Upcoming talks

Wed 23rd Feb - 'The Light Division in the Peninsular War' with Tim Saunders

Wed 23rd Mar - 'Doctor Enigma' with Dr Mark Baldwin

Wed 27th Apr - 'Moltke and his Generals' with Quintin Barry

For more information on all our talks, click through to each from [our 'Events' webpage](#)

Masters dissertation paper

We've been contacted by Steve Brooks: "I have written a historical piece on the public executions of Edward Amor and John Goodman in Devizes in 1824. They were tried in Salisbury for a crime committed in All Cannings. The 15,000-word dissertation is part of my London University History MA." If anyone would like a copy, please reply to this email and the Committee will put you in touch with Steve.

Military History News

US intelligence errors helped build myth of Nazi Alpine redoubt, says historian

Why did the Western Allies – and the U.S. forces in particular – abandon the race to Berlin in 1945, leaving it for the Soviet Union to capture the Nazi capital? While some point to the need to avoid a clash of the future superpowers, or an American focus on capturing SS missile sites and technology for the forthcoming nuclear arms race, a new book says the myth of a fanatical army of Nazis in the Austro-Bavarian Alps was a factor, but it was one created by the Americans themselves. In 1944 Allen Dulles' was informed by the British that his ciphers had been compromised and the Germans could read his reports, but he ignored the warnings. When the Nazis read that he was concerned about an Alpine redoubt that could extend the war for years, the propaganda machine set to work developing that myth to slow the Allied advance. In the final stages of the war, the western Allies were susceptible to such disinformation campaigns and it would seem one of their biggest fears was of their own making. [Read more](#)

Croatia: 30 Years After War Started, Commemorations Remain Controversial

The Balkan Wars occurred within our living history and commemorations across the region revive raw emotions. Thirty years on from the 1991-95 war in Croatia, anniversaries draw huge crowds even during

the pandemic as survivors and the families of victims meet to commemorate the events that took place in their towns and villages. While some like the Serbian Deputy Prime Minister of Croatia attend such commemorations in an effort to demonstrate unity, others will attend anniversaries of older WW2 victories or atrocities bringing fascist regalia and stoking nationalism. [Read more](#)

Why Do We Commemorate War? The Importance of Remembrance

As we entered the New Year, the Commonwealth War Graves Commission published a blog post about commemoration: what is it and why do we do it? At its core, commemoration is the showing of respect for a person or event. There are many ways in which we remember and the CWGC reminds us that it is also an opportunity to think of families, comrades and future generations. [Read more](#)

Other articles

[A short history of long-distance warfare](#)

[Are Mahan and Corbett Still Relevant? \(The Short Answer is “No”\)](#)

[4 Military Advances In Weapons and Machines that Helped Britain Win Battles For Hundreds Of Years](#)

[Richard the Lionheart: king of war](#)

[Scotland's regiments: The story behind the famous Black Watch battalion](#)

[The Camerons and Seaforths: How two famed Scottish regiments were joined together](#)

[U.S. Army's PH Scouts and the last cavalry charge in WWII](#)

[Hong Kong's WWII memories evolve 80 years after fall on Christmas](#)

[Falkland Islands war photos to go on show for 40th anniversary](#)

[Vast database catalogues over 500 years of Royal Navy's losses at sea](#)

[12 Military Movies to See in 2022](#)

[Veterans, curators, and authors head line-up of first ever IWM live event](#)

Local events, online talks and podcasts

[Click here](#) to see a wealth of upcoming events in Salisbury and surrounding areas.

As societies, clubs and other groups return to in-person meetings, we'll be phasing out the online talks section of the eNewsletter. For now though, click on the links below for the next (and future) webinars from a range of organisations. Some of these talks may charge a small fee to join.

Western Front Association

Next talk: 'Canadian Nurses on the Western Front: From Passchendaele to Peace' (Monday 24th January)

Wessex Military History Group

Next talk: 'Massacre at Oradour, 1944' (Wednesday 26th January) - £5, email jameskrporter@aol.com

Royal United Services Institute

Next talk: 'The Boer War 1899–1902: Scorched Earth, Concentration Camps and 'Methods of Barbarism'' (Thursday 27th January)

British Modern Military History Society

Next talk: 'Cold War Royal Navy Submarine Operations' (Tuesday 1st February)

[Boscombe Down Aviation Collection](#)

Next talk: 'Irgon - Orford Ness' (Tuesday 15th February)

[Lockdown Lectures](#)

Next talk: 'REME Aviation – Auster to Apache: Part 2' (Monday 21st February)

[Old Front Line](#)

A weekly World War One podcast featuring 30-45min episodes.

[Pete and Gary's Military History: Peter Hart and Gary Bain](#)

For more than 40 years historian Peter Hart has interviewed thousands of veterans about their experience of war.

[New Books Network](#)

A series of interviews with authors of military history books.

We look forward to welcoming you back for another great year of talks.

Dave Simons
Marketing Officer

Keith Rigden
Membership Secretary

Useful links:

Website - <https://salisburymilhist.com>

Email - SalisburyMilHist@gmail.com

Facebook - [SalisburyMilHist](#)

Twitter - [SalisburyMHS](#)

Who's who:

Joint Chairman & Speaker Secretary: Alan Rooney

Joint Chair: Bob Kershaw

Treasurer: John Loades

Secretary & Bookstall Co-ordinator: Andy Sharpe

Membership Secretary: Keith Rigden

Marketing Officer: Dave Simons

Joint Events Officer: Alex Howie

Joint Events Officer: Sandy Forrest