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Salisbury Military History Society October 2024 eNewsletter



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Parish Notices

Rescheduled Talk

The BRIXMIS talk that was due to be presented last month has now been confirmed as part of our 2025 programme in February. Details [here](#).

Local Battlefield visit

Arrangements for this day trip in early 2025 are coming together and will consist of laid on transport to a local civil war battlefield with a respected guide followed by a Sunday roast at a local pub. Keep an eye out for more details and requests for expressions of interest.

Newsletter updates

If there are any ideas to make the newsletter even better then please don't hesitate to contact us through web query page on our website with the subject line 'eNewsletter suggestion'. Or email directly to salisburymilhist@gmail.com with the same subject.

Talk over society matters in a convivial setting?

We meet to discuss society business in the convivial surroundings of a local pub in Salisbury. The last few have been in the Chapter House. If you would like to come along to add your experience and ideas to the society and stay to enjoy a meal should you wish. There is no commitment to join the committee but it does widen the pool of ideas!

If anyone of our members comes across an interesting link that they feel would be of interest to the other members then please email us at salisburymilhist@gmail.com with the subject 'Interesting Link'.

Upcoming talks

Nov 27th - Member's night Quiz and buffet.

Dec - No events

2025

Jan 22nd - [Keep Them or Give Them Back](#): What to do with cultural artefacts acquired during the UK's imperial wars

Feb 26th - [My Life As a Military Spy \(BRIXMIS\)](#).

Member's Quiz Night and Buffet

In November, we will not have a talk as we are planning to rerun the successful **members-only** quiz night and buffet from the previous year. Alan Rooney has generously agreed to put in the research and effort once more to create a specialized military history quiz. For those who joined us last year, you'll recall the challenging and intriguing questions, so we extend our gratitude to Alan for doing this again!

Parking

There is a small car park and lay-by opposite St John's Place on Lower Road (for approx. 20 cars). Parking is also allowed on single yellow lines on Lower Road after 18:00. Alternative car parking is available at The Clubhouse, Salisbury and South Wilts Sports Club (SP2 9NY) and a pathway connects to St John's Place.

[View all our events](#)



Talk Summary - It's All Gone South

Wednesday 23rd Oct

Andy Tailby captivated us with his narrative of the preparations for the Falklands departure as a member of 18 Squadron, part of the Falklands Task Force. He shared the perspective of a novice pilot, freshly trained and swiftly thrust into active service.

He narrated the lead-up to their embarkation on the Atlantic Conveyor, followed by the harrowing loss of the vessel and 12 personnel. He provided a detailed account of the circumstances leading to his role as the co-pilot of the sole Chinook helicopter that survived the Atlantic Conveyor's loss.

He described the precarious recovery to HMS Hermes and the ensuing journey to deliver Bravo November to the Falklands. He also mentioned the subsequent operations of Bravo November, once he transferred command to a crew qualified in night vision, and the extraordinary efforts of both air and ground crews to continue operations under challenging conditions far beyond their usual operational parameters.

Next Talk: Weds 22nd January 2025

‘Keep Them or Give Them Back’

The impulse to loot and take trophies from a defeated enemy is as old as warfare itself. During the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries British expeditionary forces amassed large collections of objects, many of which are now located in our civil and military museums. Some artefacts are now on public display, but most are not. While the majority are everyday objects of no great historical or cultural significance, some are fundamentally important to the modern identity of the peoples from whom they were taken. Should we now keep them or give them back? This talk will explore the ethics of retention with specific reference to objects taken as trophies during the Anglo-Egyptian campaign to defeat the Islamist uprising in the Ottoman Sudan, 1883-99.

Paul Fox is a historian of visual culture specialising in the representation of armed conflict in European culture. He has researched British imperial cultures of looting and trophy taking for the University of York, undertaken research in cultural property protection for Newcastle University, and has taught at University College London on topics including the protection of cultural property in the event of armed conflict; the construction of national and gendered identities at war; and the militarisation of the built environment.

Selection of events through history in October

Why not explore the details behind these events?

Battle of Gaugamela

Alexander the Great decisively defeated the Persian Empire under Darius III, leading to the fall of Persia.

Date: October 1, 331 BCE

Sack of Rome by the Visigoths

The Visigoth King Alaric captured and sacked Rome, marking a major event in the decline of the Roman Empire.

Date: October 24, 410 CE

Siege of Vienna (1529)

Ottoman forces under Suleiman the Magnificent were repelled in their attempt to capture Vienna, marking the empire's limits in Europe.

Date: October 12-15, 1529

Battle of Lepanto

A decisive naval battle where the Holy League's fleet defeated the Ottoman navy, preventing Ottoman expansion into Europe.

Date: October 7, 1571

Battle of White Mountain

A pivotal early battle in the Thirty Years' War in which Catholic forces defeated the Bohemian Protestants, securing Habsburg control of Bohemia.

Date: October 8, 1620

Battle of Germantown

A battle in the Philadelphia campaign where American forces attempted to drive the British out of Philadelphia but ultimately failed.

Date: October 4, 1777

Surrender at Yorktown

British General Cornwallis surrendered to American and French forces, effectively ending the American Revolutionary War.

Date: October 19, 1781

Battle of Caporetto

A Central Powers victory where German and Austro-Hungarian forces broke through Italian lines,

Leyte Gulf

One of the largest naval battles in history, where Allied forces decisively defeated the Japanese Navy, reclaiming the Philippines.

Date: October 23-26, 1944

YouTube

Our YouTube channel is new but it our intention to post excerpts of talks (where licensing and copyright allow) as well as videos that we feel would be of interest within our Military History remit.

[Excerpt from a talk by Dr Helen Fry for the Salisbury Military History Society on 26th June 2024.](#)

[Excerpt of Robin Phayre's 22nd May talk on Drone Dynamics: A Look at drones in the Ukraine theatre and the lessons for the future](#)

[Full Talk: Flying to the Sun: A Modern Englishman in Mediaeval Japan with Michael Jay.](#)

[Full Talk: Peter Hart's - 'Laugh or Fly with The Royal Flying Corps 1914-18](#)

[Custer's Last Stand - Robert Kershaw](#)

It's All Gone South - by Andy Tailby: Unfortunately due to a technical hitch only the first few minutes were captured. These things happen so all the better to be there!

YouTube

Local Events, Online Talks and Podcasts

There is a wealth of upcoming military history talks and events in Salisbury and the surrounding areas. This calendar is updated regularly so check back for new additions.

1st-30th November - [Online exhibition: The Fallen of Afghanistan](#)

1st November - [How the American Civil War Changed the British Army](#)

4th November - [The People of 1381](#)

4th November - [Revisiting the Ludendorff Offensives, March-July 1918](#)

5th November - [Royal Marines Musicians at War](#)

5th November - [Wilson, Washington, And World War I](#)

6th November - [The Commonwealth War Graves Commission and Researching your loved ones](#)

6th November - [Defining "American": Native American Soldiers In World War I And The Path To Citizenship](#)

8th November - [Back to School: Student Life in the Aftermath of the Great War](#)

11th November - [Arms & Armour of the British Civil Wars](#)

11th November - [From Putney Bridge to Jallianwala Bagh: The 1/25th County of London Cyclists 1914-1919](#)

12th November - [WW1 & WW2 NAS Carrier Operations](#)

12th November - [Wilson, Washington, And World War I](#)

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- 14th November - [SAS Daggers Drawn](#)
- 15th November - [The Minden Cannonball and Its Impact on History](#)
- 20th November - [The Viking Age in Northwest England](#)
- 20th November - [Cassino '44](#)
- 20th November - [Defining "American": Native American Soldiers In World War I And The Path To Citizenship](#)
- 20th November - [Black Redcoats: The Corps of Colonial Marines 1814-1816](#)
- 21st November - [On Great Fields: The Life And Unlikely Heroism Of Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain](#)
- 22nd November - [Cambrai: The Making of the Tank Corps](#)
- 29th November - [Soldiers, Angels and Avengers: The Jewish Brigade in Italy](#)
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Online Events

- 02 Nov [First World War Family Open Day](#)
(Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum, Woodstock)
- 02 Nov [Gallipoli Association Annual Conference & Dinner 2024](#)
(The Gallipoli Association, London)
- 03 Nov [Tanks at Bullecourt](#)
(The Western Front Association, Swindon)
- 08 Nov [Concert of Remembrance](#)
(The Army Flying Museum, Middle Wallop)
- 10 Nov [Historical European Fighting Arts with Dr Milo Thurston](#)
(Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum, Woodstock)
- 12 Nov [WW1 & WW2 NAS Carrier Operations](#)
(Boscombe Down Aviation Collection, Old Sarum)
- 14 Nov [Known Unto God - Finding Lieutenant Wordsworth](#) (Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum, Woodstock)
- 18 Nov [Operation FRESHMAN - War Crime Investigations, Trials and Sentencing - Was Justice Done?](#)
(The Army Flying Museum, Middle Wallop)
- 20 Nov [Templer Lecture and Dinner 2024](#)
(The Society for Army Historical Research, London)
- 24 Nov [Aircraft Enthusiasts' Fair & Model Show 2024](#)
(The Army Flying Museum, Middle Wallop)
- 30 Nov [Living History Saturday](#)
(The Army Flying Museum, Middle Wallop)

Military History News

Please see below a periodically updated list of articles from the world of military history.

[10 Inspiring Stories Of Bravery During The Battle Of Britain](#)

[The mysterious story of the Unknown Warrior](#)

[Bernard Law Montgomery: Unbeatable and unbearable](#)

[Introduction to Legion: life in the Roman army](#)

[History Has No Lessons for You: A Warning for Policymakers](#)

[7 Greatest Military Strategists from History](#)

[Exhibiting military history](#)

[New Medieval Books: Byzantine Military Rhetoric in the Ninth Century](#)

[Legion: Life in the Roman Army review - 'More than just a blood and guts orgy of military might'](#)

[Why a Rabbit Appears on This Japanese Samurai Helmet](#)

[The Navy's Short-Lived Plan to Dominate the Skies with Flying Aircraft Carriers](#)

[Learning Lessons from the Prussian Past?](#)

[Which Countries Were Major Players in World War II?](#)

[Carry On films: The star who helped World War II prisoners escape](#)

[D-Day 80th anniversary: Pop-up museums tell Portsmouth's story \[video\]](#)

[10 War Movies Military Experts Praised for Accuracy & Realism](#)

Click on the links below for the next (and future) webinars from a range of organisations. Some of these talks may have a small fee to join.

[Old Front Line](#)

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

[Pete and Gary's Military History](#)

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 seeing you to St. John's Place next week!

Best regards,

Tony Corkery
Marketing Officer

Keith Rigden
Membership Secretary

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Our meeting venue is:

St John's Place, Lower Road, Bemerton, SP2 9NP

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