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Salisbury Military History Society September 2024 eNewsletter



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Parish Notices

Last Minute Change

For those not present or on X(Twitter), there was a last-minute change to the scheduled speaker and talk subject due to logistical difficulties. The society and Peter Williams sincerely apologize for these issues. As you will read below, Robert Kershaw stepped in to save the day!

Peter will return in February to deliver the talk as promised. We hope to see you there.

Left Property

St James Place notified us that a tweed cap had been left after our last talk. Hopefully by now the cap and owner have been happily reunited. If not, they are holding the cap in their lost property and the owner can contact them for a return.

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, **come along to our next quarterly meeting on 14th Oct at 18:00 in the Chapter House Salisbury**. 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

Wed 23rd Oct - ['It's All Gone South' - The Story of MV Atlantic Conveyor and Chinook Bravo November in the Falklands Conflict - Andy Tailby](#)

Nov 27th - Quiz night and buffet.

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 - Custer's Last Stand

Wednesday 25th Sep

On short notice, Robert Kershaw delivered a highly informative and engaging lecture on the notable events surrounding the Battle of Little Big Horn. Drawing from numerous site visits and his book 'Red Sabbath', Robert's presentation was rich with narratives and evidence that shed light on the often misunderstood historical events.

He guided us through portrayals in popular culture and the myths they have perpetuated, leading to the factual evidence obtained from archaeological excavations and artifacts found at the site. He outlined the battle's various stages and the roles of prominent figures such as Capt. Benteen, Major Reno, and Custer, among other leaders. Utilizing photos he took at the site, he illustrated how the terrain and the movements of troops and Native Americans led to the ultimate standoff and the massacre of Custer's forces.

Robert's book 'Red Sabbath' covering these events can still be found on [resellers](#) or [Amazon](#)

Next Talk: Weds 23rd October

It's All Gone South

Andy Tailby will give a first-hand account of 18(B) Squadron's build up to Operation CORPORATE including the journey 'down south', the loss of Atlantic Conveyor and Bravo November's arrival into Bomb Alley (San Carlos Water). He will also describe the Survivor's land-based operations in the Falklands.

Andy, a fresh RAF helicopter pilot, was part of 18(B) Squadron during its 1981 reformation. The squadron, initially set to operate in Germany, shifted focus to the Falklands crisis in 1982. They were tasked with introducing Chinook helicopters into service.

During the Falklands War, the MV Atlantic Conveyor, carrying helicopters and supplies, was struck by missiles, resulting in significant losses. Despite challenges, the squadron's personnel kept the sole surviving Chinook, "Bravo November," operational, providing vital support throughout the conflict.

Bravo November's service continued post-war in various operations, earning multiple honours. Andy shares his experiences from the build-up to the Falklands War, the loss of the Atlantic Conveyor, and Bravo November's enduring legacy in RAF history.

Selection of events through history in September

Why not explore the details behind these events?

September 6, 1522 - Battle of Bicocca: The Spanish and Imperial forces defeated the French and Swiss troops, leading to the end of French ambitions in Italy.

September 8, 1565 - Siege of Malta Ends: The Knights of Malta successfully defended against the Ottoman Empire's siege, a pivotal moment in the struggle between Christian Europe and the Ottoman Turks.

September 17, 1862 - Battle of Antietam: The bloodiest single-day battle in American history during the Civil War, resulting in a tactical draw but strategic Union victory.

September 19, 1356 - Battle of Poitiers: The English army, led by the Black Prince, captured the French King John II, significantly impacting the Hundred Years' War.

September 25, 1066 - Battle of Stamford Bridge: King Harold II of England defeated the invading Norwegian forces, marking the end of the Viking Age in England.

September 28, 1781 - Siege of Yorktown Begins: The last major battle of the American Revolutionary War, leading to the eventual British surrender and American independence.

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](#)

Robert Kershaw's Talk will be available soon

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.

- 10 Feb to 09 Nov [Hidden: The Military's Influence on Popular Culture](#)
(The Rifles (Berkshire & Wiltshire) Museum, Salisbury)
 - 13 Feb to 25 Dec [Who Am I? The D-Day Trail](#)
(REME Museum, Lyneham)
 - 08 Mar to 15 Dec [Two Sides: The Art of REME](#)
(REME Museum, Lyneham)
 - 28 Sep [Tiger Day - Autumn](#)
(The Tank Museum, Bovington)
 - 04 Oct [James Holland: "Cassino '44 - The Bloodiest Battle of the Italian Campaign"](#)
(Salisbury Methodist Church, Salisbury)
 - 05 Oct [Living History Saturday](#)
(The Army Flying Museum, Middle Wallop)
 - 05 Oct [Behind the Scenes Archive Tour](#)
(Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum, Woodstock)
 - 08 Oct [C47 - Digging for Band of Brothers](#)
(Boscombe Down Aviation Collection, Old Sarum)
 - 10 Oct [A Thousand Battles with Serena Merton](#)
(The Gurkha Museum, Winchester)
 - 12 Oct [Model Show 2024](#)
(REME Museum, Lyneham)
 - 12 Oct [Behind the Scenes Tour](#)
(The Tank Museum, Bovington)
 - 12 Oct ["Where's the Pilot?" - Women of the Air Transport Auxiliary](#) (Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum, Woodstock)
 - 15 Oct [A lecture and lunch on the Hunza-Nagar Campaign](#)
(The Gurkha Museum, Winchester)
 - 16 Oct [Reflections on the Battle of Britain](#)
(The Army Flying Museum, Middle Wallop)
 - 18 Oct [Lecture and lunch on the Hunza-Nagar Campaign](#)
(The Gurkha Museum, Winchester)
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Some recent release books of interest

[Paris '44: The Shame and the Glory - Patrick Bishop \(Released 25th July\) well timed for the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Paris on Aug 25th 1944](#)

[Laugh or Fly: The Air War on the Western Front 1914 - 1918](#)

[The Walls Have Ears - Dr Helen Fry](#)

[Operation Biting: OPERATION BITING: The Sunday Times Number One Bestselling Military History of the 1942 Parachute Assault to Capture Hitler's Radar - Max Hastings](#)

Online Events

1st October

The March East, 1945: The Final Days of Oflag IX

<https://bmmhs.org/bmmhs-events-calendar-2024/>

1st October

Following The French: Rochambeau's Army In Virginia

<https://www.thenmusa.org/events/>

2nd October

The Monuments Men: Preserving Cultural Heritage During World War II

<https://www.thenmusa.org/events/>

3rd October

Attack On Washington: A Walking Tour Of Bladensburg Battlefield

<https://www.thenmusa.org/events/>

4th October

Commonwealth Personnel and the British Military

<https://www.nam.ac.uk/whats-on/commonwealth-personnel-and-british-military>

6th October

Attack On Washington: A Walking Tour Of Bladensburg Battlefield

<https://www.thenmusa.org/events/>

8th October

Following The French: Rochambeau's Army In Virginia

<https://www.thenmusa.org/events/>

9th October

The Monuments Men: Preserving Cultural Heritage During World War II

<https://www.thenmusa.org/events/>

<https://www.nam.ac.uk/whats-on/forgotten-history-british-nuclear-test-veterans>

Army Flying Museum 40th Anniversary [Silent Auction](#)

16th October

Reflections on the Battle of Britain

<https://armyflying.com/what-s-on/events/reflections-on-the-battle-of-britain/>

16th October

“Op Gold: 1 STRE and the Berlin Tunnel”

<https://www.instre.org/events/16-october-2024-op-gold-1-stre-and-the-berlin-tunnel/>

16th October

The Monuments Men: Preserving Cultural Heritage During World War II

<https://www.thenmusa.org/events/>

17th October

The Cutting-Off Way: Indigenous Warfare In Eastern North America, 1500-1800

<https://www.thenmusa.org/events/>

18th October

From Knights to Nukes

<https://www.nam.ac.uk/whats-on/knights-nukes>

24th October

D-Day at 80: A Panel Discussion on Remembrance

<https://www.thenmusa.org/events/>

25th October

The Forgotten General: Sir Alan Cunningham

<https://www.nam.ac.uk/whats-on/forgotten-general-sir-alan-cunningham>

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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Secretary: Mark Vincent

Treasurer: John Loades

Membership Secretary: Keith Rigden

Marketing Officer: Tony Corkery

Links Curator: Dave Simons

Without portfolio: Andy McCafferty, Bob Kershaw



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Our meeting venue is:

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

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