



Salisbury Military History Society

December 2020 eNewsletter

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

Season's greetings to all our members, subscribers, visitors and friends!

Parish Notices

While we've not been able to meet in person since February, we approach the new year with renewed optimism that we will return and recommence our engaging and thought-provoking programme of talks.

As you'd have seen on our website throughout the last eight months, we've already rescheduled a number of postponed talks and we will endeavour to ensure all speakers have the opportunity to regale us with their expertise as we plan ahead into 2021 and beyond.

Military History News

Turkish researchers discover 18th-century warship wreck in the Aegean

Researchers have discovered the sunken remains from what may be a previously-unknown battle in the Aegean Sea. The 'Inventory of Turkish Sunken-Ships Project: Blue Heritage' has identified a number of ships off the coast of Izmir in western Turkey, but there are no records of a naval engagement where this new ship was found. In the wreckage of the 250-year-old ship were found bronze and iron cannons and Ottoman and Italian cups. [Read more](#)

American military history in pictures

To mark Veterans/Remembrance Day, over 100 years of American military history (1918-2019) has been collated in a photo montage. Spanning the Meuse-Argonne Offensive in September 1918 to Iran's announcement of a missile defence system, significant pictures are accompanied by key statistics including the strength of each branch of the armed forces. [See more](#)

Bletchley Park's Contribution to WWII is Vastly Overrated

The Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) was established as a cryptanalytic unit in November 1919. For all its successes, it's the story of Alan Turing and Enigma that captures the imagination. For his new book, Professor John Ferris has been granted access to the GCHQ archives and reveals that, while important, Bletchley Park's role is perhaps exaggerated as part of the Second World War mythology. He also discusses how Soviet communications couldn't be cracked during the Cold War, but that British forces had direct access to Argentine traffic in the Falklands to great effect. [Read more](#)

Book reviews and recommendations

[The Ten Best History Books of 2020](#)

[The best books on veterans](#)

[Before history devolves into mythology: 2020's best books on World War II](#)

[11 of the best military books we read this year](#)

[Military History Matters Book of the Year 2021](#)

Online talks and podcasts

Click on the links below for the next (and future) webinars from a range of historians and societies.

[Western Front Association](#)

Next talk: Talbot House, beyond the Great War (Wednesday 16th December)

[Old Front Line](#)

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

[Peter Hart's Military History](#)

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

Other online talks recommencing in the new year:

[British Modern Military History Society](#)

[Royal Engineers Historical Society](#)

[The Green Howards Museum](#)

[The Royal Green Jackets \(Rifles\) Museum](#)

We'll keep you all up-to-date regarding our future plans and welcome your continued correspondence.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

Keith Rigden
Membership Secretary

Dave Simons
Marketing Officer

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: Andy Sharpe

Membership Secretary: Keith Rigden

Marketing Officer: Dave Simons

Joint Events Officer: Alex Howie

Joint Events Officer: Sandy Forrest

