



Salisbury Military History Society

April 2021 eNewsletter

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

Parish Notices

'Seapower States: Culture, Identity and Strategy'

We're pleased to announce that Prof. Andrew Lambert is set to join us on Wednesday 23rd June. With this meeting planned for a few days after the proposed end of lockdown restrictions, final go-ahead will be confirmed nearer the time as circumstances dictate. In the meantime, you can read more about Prof. Lambert [here](#) and about his book 'Seapower States' [here](#).

Bookstall update

Over the last year Andy has been accumulating a rather impressive array of books for when we return to in-person meetings. Please do get in touch with him if you've embarked on a lockdown clear-out and are seeking a new home for any books or DVDs - computasaur@gmail.com

Members' content

Our feature focusing on new books, articles, documentaries, podcasts and more.

As it was published this week, here's a reminder of Bob's latest book...

'Borodino Field, 1812 & 1941' by Robert Kershaw

"The name Borodino Field resonates with patriotism and Mother Russia for Russians. The battle in September 1812 is known to most as one of the epic climaxes in Tolstoy's War and Peace. Napoleon's pyrrhic victory there took the French Grande Armée to the gates of Moscow and on to catastrophe during the subsequent winter. Another lesser known, but equally bitter battle was fought at Borodino Field in October 1941. This time Hitler's SS and panzers came up against elite Soviet Siberian troops defending Stalin's Moscow. Remarkably, they fought in the same woods and gullies that follow the line of the Koloch River flowing through the middle of the historic battlefield. Tsarist and Soviet troops twice faced invaders here, coming from the west in 1812, and again in 1941. Only rarely in the history of human conflict do key battles occur in the same place."

Available from bookshops and online marketplaces. Read more on Bob's website – [see here](#).

Military History News

8 Events that Led to World War I

While not everyone will recall the full details of those fateful months that preceded the Great War, even Baldrick recalled "I heard that it started when a bloke called Archie Duke shot an ostrich". Franz Ferdinand and the 'Balkan Question' feature prominently in any GCSE History lesson. However, the causes of the First World War date back to the Franco-Russian Alliance of 1894. Empire-building, alliance-building and arms races burned a slow 20-year fuse. [Read more](#)

The 4 biggest paper tigers in military history

The term 'paper tiger' was first coined by Mao Zedong and has since been used often to disparage seemingly mighty opponents with a soft underbelly. A recent article details the fate of four Twentieth Century paper tigers: France (1940), Egypt (1967), Argentina (1982) and Iraq (1991). [Read more](#)

Other headlines

[Hunters' shock as river reveals a fragment of military history](#)

[That time an Army officer tried to reach the center of the Earth](#)

[There was a time when duels 'downsized' the officer ranks](#)

[Work starts on new £4 million Doncaster home for town's iconic Vulcan bomber](#)

[8 surprising medical conditions that could bar you from \[U.S. military\] service](#)

Online talks and podcasts

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

[Western Front Association](#)

Next talk: Finding the Lost Battalion (Monday 26th April)

[Classic Battlefield Tours](#)

Next talks: Redcoat Music (Friday 30th April)

[British Modern Military History Society](#)

Next talk: Ships and Starts and Isles (Tuesday 4th May)

[Manchester Military History Society](#)

Next talk: WW2 in the NL, 1944. The October fighting around Schjindel. The British actions (Tuesday 11th May)

[Army Flying Museum: Lockdown Lectures](#)

Next talk: Op GRANBY –The First Gulf War: The Reunion (Monday 24th May)

[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.

[New Books Network](#)

A series of interviews with authors of military history books

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

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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