

Mercurius



Submissions for *Mercurius* should be sent to the editor at: 16 Cobbetts Way, Farnham, Surrey, GU9 8TL (neil.rennoldson@ukonline.co.uk). Previous copies are posted on the Society's web-site.

Committee Vacancies

A volunteer has come forward for the position of *Postal Sales Officer*, however we still have vacancies for the following positions:

- The **Treasurer** needs to be able to operate an Excel spreadsheet, manage transactions on three bank accounts, use a shop-style terminal to input credit card transactions from home, access the Treasurer's e-mail on the Society web-site to operate Paypal, and produce standard accounts and reports to four Committee and one General Meetings a year. The Society's honorary Auditor, John Breckenridge, is expected to carry on in office. This is an important role in the Society's administration and one which can largely be dealt with from home. Jeff Bayton will remain as a Vice-President to offer advice and support during the handover process; his personal e-mail is jeffbayton@hotmail.com.
- The **Membership Secretary** needs to be able to operate Excel spreadsheets, access records and, via e-mail, be able to create postal labels and co-ordinate with the printers, and answer membership queries. Further, to ensure that members who are not mailed directly by the printers, receive the *Arquebusier* and *Mercurius*. This requires some storage space to hold copies of the issues that make up current volume of *Arquebusier*.

Committee Meeting Minutes

Held at the National Army Museum, Chelsea on Sunday 26th June 2005.

- Society finances very tight at the moment due to recent heavy publishing schedule.
- Additional signatories to the Society's bank accounts to be added.
- Due to cash-flow situation, publishing priority would be given to the production of *Arquebusier*. However this restriction will hopefully not apply to next volume in the series of works by Robert Hall as this should be mostly funded by pre-publication subscriptions.
- New web-site up and running but unable to bring down previous web-site due to loss of contact with previous web-master.
- Membership stands at 423.

Publication	Status
Miscellany I	Printed
Montcassel	No progress
General At Sea Supplement	No progress

- Next meeting, 27th November 2005, time and venue to be determined.

Forthcoming Society Attendance at Shows for 2005

Colours	Newbury	3 rd -4 th September
SOA Games Day	Harpenden	10 th September
SELWG	Crystal Palace, London	16 th October
Crisis 05	Antwerp, Belgium	5 th November

Events

National Army Museum

Bowmen of England – 22nd October

For the anniversary of Agincourt, Robert Hardy and Andrew Ayton analyse the medieval Army's national weapon, the longbow, and its effect on battles from Crécy to Agincourt. Dr Ayton explores the crushing defeat inflicted against the French army at Crécy – including Edward III's campaign strategy and the dynamics of the conflict – and assesses how its effect on the English psyche contributed to the long-term significance of the battle. Robert Hardy then takes the story of the bow forward from Crécy to Shrewsbury and to its most famous hour, Agincourt. Dr Ayton's lecture begins at 4.00p.m. and Robert Hardy's at 6.00p.m. Each lecture runs for an hour, and there will be a 45 minute break between lectures during which the speakers will sign books and refreshments will be available at The Great Escape. Doors close at 7.30p.m.

Richard III Society Study Day

Knighthood and Battle – the Hundred Years War and the Wars of the Roses – 12th November 2005

09.30	Coffee on arrival
09.55	Welcome to Study Day
10.00-11.00	The Knight in the Armies of Henry V and VI by Prof. Anne Curry, Reading University
11.00-11.30	Coffee
11.30-12.30	The Hundred Years War and the Wars of the Roses: contexts and comparisons by Prof. Mark Ormond, York University
12.30-14.00	Lunch
14.00-15.00	A Band of Brothers – the battle of Agincourt revisited by Dr Michael K Jones

- 15.00-15.30 Tea
 15.30-16.30 The Battle of Crecy – new perspectives by Dr Andrew Ayton, Hull University
 16.30-17.00 Question & Answer session organised by Dr Michael K Jones
 17.00 Close

The study day is organised by the Norfolk branch of the Richard III Society and takes place at the Assembly House, Theatre Street, Norwich. Tickets cost £18 and interested parties should contact Mrs A Hayek, 20 Rowington Road, Norwich, NR1 3RR. Tel. 01603 664021.

Mary Rose, Portsmouth

Their annual lecture day will be held on 8th October in *Action Stations* within the Naval Museums area in Portsmouth. The cost is £25 and this concludes coffee and buffet lunch. For more information and a booking form please contact Joanna Coope on 023 92750521 or email: j.coope@maryrose.org.

- 09.50 Registration
 10.15 Welcome (and admin matters) **Christopher Dobbs, Mary Rose Trust Maritime Archaeologist**
 10.20 The formation of the first Mary Rose Trust **Richard Harrison**
 10.55 The 2011 museum – concept, design, progress **Martin Knight**
 11.30 *Coffee*
 11.50 A new look at making the timbers from the *Mary Rose* **Dr Damien Goodburn**
 12.25 Handweapons – The forgotten armouries of the *Mary Rose* **Guy Wilson**
 13.00 *Lunch*
 14.00 Science tells stories from the *Mary Rose* **Dr Michael Allen**
 14.35 Archaeological Oceanography and its application to the *Mary Rose* **Dr Justin Dix**
 15.10 The men of the *Mary Rose* - what have we learnt from the human remains found during the excavation **Dr Ann Stirland**
 15.45 *Tea and book signings*
 16.10 Acid, sulphur and the *Mary Rose* **Dr Mark Jones, Mary Rose Archaeological Services**
 16.45 The stem, the anchor and reburial - The 2005 Dive Project **Alex Hildred**
 17.20 Questions / discussion
 17.30 Future challenges / Closing address **Chief Executive of Mary Rose Trust, Rear Admiral John Lippiett**
 17.45 Depart theatre and building

Warhammer Historical Weekend

One will take place on 29th/30th October. Further details will be placed on the *Warhammer Historical* web-site as and when they are available.

Richard III Foundation

Their 2005 conference will be held on Saturday 8th October at St Kenelms Hall, Brize Norton Road, Minster Lovell, Oxfordshire and runs from 10am to 5pm. The following lectures will be presented:

- *Living to Fight Another Day? Francis Lord Lovel and the Organisation of Yorkist rebellions against Henry VII*: Sean Cunningham, Medieval and Early Modern Records Manager at the National Archives in Kew;
- *The Battle of Stoke*: Matthew Bennett, Military Lecturer at Sandhurst;
- *Francis Lovel : All Things Will be Revealed*: Joe Ann Ricca, Founder, CEO and President of the Richard III Foundation;
- *Of Lands and Ladies*: Monika E Simon, DPhil from Ludwig-Maximilians-Universitat, Munchen;
- *Church, Manor and Village : The Anatomy of Minster Lovell*: Dr Simon Townley, County Editor of the Oxfordshire VCH

The cost for the day is £25 (or £20 for Foundation Members). Tickets are available from Mrs Mary Kelly, 77 Deacons Green, Tavistock, Devon, PL19 8BN, Tel: 01822 618036.

Society Merchandise

Please send orders to the *Postal Sales Organiser* at the following address: Steve Harding, 3 Heath Gardens, Coalpit Heath, Bristol, BS36 2TQ. (Email: Sghardingsg@aol.com). Payment may be made by Visa/Mastercard/American Express, PayPal (via the web-site), International Money Order or Sterling cheques drawn on an UK bank. Cheques should be made payable to *The Pike and Shot Society*. Postage rates: 10% for UK, 15% for Europe, 20% for the rest of the world. North American members should note that a limited amount of Society stock is now held in the U.S. and, subject to availability, will reduce postage for items. Please enquire for details.

N.B. Although marked as being out of stock at the moment, there are limited numbers of binders and the Thomas Audley volume available from the Society's stand at shows.

Arquebusier

Volumes. These consist of all six issues from that volume, excluding any special publications that may have been distributed with it (N.B. some issues of Vol. 22 are photocopied due to shortages). The following are available:

Vols. 16, 17, 19	£6	Vol. 25	£15
Vol. 22	£10	Vols. 26, 27	£17
Vol. 23	£14	Vol. 28	£18

Compendia. These are all the articles from one volume of *Arquebusier* collected together under one cover but with time-dependent material removed. The following volumes are currently available:

Vol. 1, 2a, 2b, 3, 4 £3 each; Vol. 5, 7, 8 £4.50 each; Vol. 9 £6

Binders. These are in a dark red finish with the journal name in gold lettering down the spine and the outline of an arquebusier at the base. Each binder has 14 cords so they can hold two volumes of *Arquebusier* as well as accompanying special publications. The binders cost £5 each. **CURRENTLY OUT OF STOCK**

Society Publications (Prices discounted for Society Members)

Books

- *Flags and Uniforms of the French Infantry under Louis XIV, 1688-1714* by Robert Hall
This book provides the most detailed and comprehensive study of the infantry of the Sun King to have been published in any language. In 140 pages of text and 116 full-colour plates, it describes the appearance of over 280 regiment of foot that served in the French army during its two greatest conflicts--the Nine Years War and the War of the Spanish Succession. It represents scholarship of the highest standards and will be an essential resource to those who are interested in warfare of the late-17th and early-18th centuries.
Cloth £85 (*Members*); £95 (*Public*) **Paper** £55 (*Members*); £65 (*Public*)
- *Guidons, Flags and Uniforms of the French Dragoons, Militia, Artillery and Bombardiers under Louis XIV, 1688-1714* by Robert Hall, Yves Roumegoux & Giancarlo Boeri
This book provides the most detailed and comprehensive study of the lesser branches of the Sun King's army to have been published in any language. Containing 140 pages of text and 29 full-colour plates, it represents scholarship of the highest standards and will be an essential resource to those who are interested in warfare of the late-17th and early-18th centuries.
Cloth £50 (*Members*); £60 (*Public*) **Paper** £40 (*Members*); £50 (*Public*)
- *The Army of the Electorate Palatine Under Elector Johann Wilhelm 1690-1716* by Claus-Peter Golberg & Robert Hall
This book is the most detailed and comprehensive study of the army of the Elector Palatine Johann Wilhelm to have been published in any language. Containing 144 pages of text and 20 full-colour plates, it represents scholarship of the highest standards and will be an essential resource to those who are interested in warfare of the late-17th and early-18th centuries.
Cloth £50 (*Members*); £60 (*Public*) **Paper** £40 (*Members*); £50 (*Public*)
- *Marlborough Goes to War* by Iain Stanford
An 80 page paperback book describing the campaign and battle of Blenheim in 1704. It includes a complete OOB for both armies and a reprint of the 'Blenheim Roll', which lists all the senior officers of the British Army who participated in the battle.
This is a revised second edition with much new information.
£6.50 (*Members*); £10 (*Public*)
- *Lostwithiel 1644 - The Campaign and Battles* by Stephen Ede-Borrett.
The summer 1644 campaign in the West of England was a exceptional feat of arms for the Royalist armies and, in contrast, a vivid demonstration of the complete lack of ability of their Parliamentarian opponents to work together. The resultant catastrophic defeat of the Earl of Essex's army was, together with the failure at

Newbury that autumn, highly influential in the vote that created the New Model Army in the following winter. Despite this, however, the campaign is often treated superficially or simply ignored in many histories of the war and no previous detailed history of it has been published, this work aims to correct those omissions. A 158 page paperback book.

£13 (Members); £20 (Public)

- *The Art of Gunnery (1647) together with A Treatise of Artificall Fire-Works (1647) by Nathanael Nye.* Introduction and Transcription by Cliff Mitchell.

Nathaniel Nye's work, first published in 1647, was part of an ongoing series of such 'Gunnery Manuals' that first began appearing in the sixteenth century. However it is one of only two whose authors are known to have served during the English Civil Wars. As such it is an invaluable addition to our knowledge of the way that contemporary artillerymen felt that their pieces should be handled and its republication in 1670 says a great deal about its success and popularity during the seventeenth century. A 96 page paperback book.

£6.50 (Members); £10 (Public)

- *Elis Gruffyrd and the 1544 'Enterprises' of Paris and Boulogne.* Transcribed by M. Byrn Davies and edited with a new introduction by Jonathan Davies

An 80-page booklet reprinting a contemporary account of the 1544 English campaign in France that culminated in the capture of Boulogne. Elis Gruffydd's remarkable journal contains a wealth of detail – military, social and political; and from a viewpoint that is hardly ever recorded. Elis was a fully paid up member of the "Poor Bloody Infantry", and despite attaining the rank of Captain his sympathies were with the suffering soldiery rather than their aristocratic commanders. His harshest criticisms are directed at those in command although he has little time for "idle" soldiers unable to shift for themselves. Opinionated, well informed and thoroughly experienced in the ways of the world his commentary on the expedition is a delight in its vigour, freshness and well-developed sense of irony.

£5 (Members); £7.50 (Public)

- *Thomas Audley and the Tudor Art of War.* Commentary by Jonathan Davies

A 64-page paperback booklet reprinting a mid-16th century treatise on the art of war, written for Edward VI by a veteran Tudor soldier. An extensive introduction provides a detailed analysis of the treatise. In addition the book also reprints, in detail, the Cowdray House illustrations of the siege of Boulogne in 1544 and the French attack on Portsmouth in 1545. **CURRENTLY OUT OF STOCK**

£4.25 (Members); £6.50 (Public)

- *The English Companies of Foot in 1588* by Jonathan Davies

A 36-page paperback booklet describing the organisation, equipment, weapons, tactics and standards carried by the English 'Trained Bands' at the time of the Spanish Armada.

£3 (Members); £4.50 (Public)

Renaissance Military Texts Series

The aim of the *Renaissance Military Texts* series is to make accessible to the general public scarce and important contemporary documents relating to warfare during the Renaissance and Early Modern periods of history. Such items will be of insufficient length to warrant

publication as a separate item in their own right, but too long to enable to be conveniently included within the Society's regular journal.

- *Vol. 1: Warfare in the Age of Louis XIV*

This 94-page volume contains three texts with a general theme of warfare during the reign of the iconic French king Louis XIV. Their subjects are:

- A journal of the 1684 Siege of Luxembourg, written from the point of view of the French besiegers,
- Extracts from *The London Gazette*, covering the action at Elixheim on 18th July 1705.
- The letters of Richard Pope, a junior officer in an English cavalry regiment, who served from the Glorious Revolution to the War of the Spanish Succession.

£10 (*Members*); £15 (*Public*)

Wargames Rules

- *Captain-General* by Tom Smith and Iain Stanford

Rules for land warfare in the period 1660 – 1721 £6.50 (*Members*); £10 (*Public*)

- *General-At-Sea* by Iain Stanford **CURRENTLY OUT OF STOCK**

Rules for naval warfare in the period 1640 – 1721 £6.50 (*Members*); £10 (*Public*)

- *Husaria* by Iain Wilson

Rules for East European warfare 1558 – 1699 £9 (*Members*); £12 (*Public*)

Stuart Press Publications

First Civil War

Battle of Powick Bridge	Stuart Peachey	24p	£3.00
Battle of Babylon Hill, Yeovill 1642	Robert Morris	20p	£3.00
Siege of Manchester 1642	John Barrett	24p	£3.00
Battle of Aylsbury 1642	Sara Griffin	16p	£2.50
Sieges of Exeter 1642-3	Stuart Peachey	36p	£4.00
Battle of Braddock Down 1643	Stuart Peachey	28p	£3.50
Storming of Sudely Castle 1643	Robert Morris	16p	£2.50
Battle of Coleford 1643	Stuart Peachey	16p	£2.50
Battle of Modbury 1643	Stuart Peachey	40p	£4.00
Battle of Highnam House	John Putley	16p	£2.50
Battles of Lauceston and Sourton Down 1643	Stuart Peachey	52p	£6.00
Siege of Reading 1643	Sara Griffin	52p	£6.00
Battle of Stratton 1643	Stuart Peachey	56p	£6.00
Battles of Landsdown and Roundway 1643	Robert Morris	48p	£5.00
Storming of Bristol 1643	Stuart Peachey	44p	£5.00
Siege of Gloucester 1643	Robert Morris	32p	£4.00
First Battle of Newbury 1643	Robert Morris	36p	£4.00
Storming of Alton and Arundel 1643	Robert Morris	28p	£3.50
Battle of Nantwich 1644	John Barratt	36p	£4.00
Battle of Cheriton 1644	Lawrence Spring	28p	£3.50
Battle of Montgomery 1644	Andrew Abram	44p	£5.00
Siege of Liverpool and Lancashire Campaign 1644	John Barratt	44p	£5.00
Siege of York 1644	Wylie Reves	20p	£2.50
Battle of Cropredy Bridge 1644	Robert Morris	32p	£4.00
Battle of Marston Moor 1644	David Evans	32p	£4.00
Siege of Taunton 1644-45	Robert Morris	20p	£3.00

Battle of Naseby 1645	Robert Morris	20p	£3.00
Battle of Langport 1645	John Barratt	36p	£4.00
Siege of Chester and the Battle of Rowton Heath 1645	John Barratt	48p	£5.00
Second Civil War			
St. Fagans 1648	David Webb	36p	£4.00
Siege of Chepstow 1648	David Webb	16p	£2.50
Sieges of Pembroke and Tenby 1648	Tim Beardsworth	20p	£3.00
Miscellaneous			
Dorset in the English Civil War	Robert Morris	24p	£3.00
Wallingford in the English Civil War	Sara Griffin	28p	£3.50
Aylesbury in the English Civil War	Sara Griffin	44p	£5.00
Isles of Silly in the English Civil War	John Putley	44p	£5.00
Stratford upon Avon in the English Civil War	Robert Morris	16p	£2.50
Campaigns of Sir William Waller's Southern Association 1643-45	Lawrence Spring	64p	£6.00
Regiments of the Eastern Association Vol. 1: Ayloff-Manchester	Lawrence Spring	62p	£6.00
Regiments of the Eastern Association Vol. 2: Manchester-Wittrough	Lawrence Spring	58p	£6.00
The Mechanics of Infantry Combat in the First English Civil War	Stuart Peachey	28p	£3.50
War in the West Part 1: The Fall of the West			
Vol. 1: The Campaigns (1)		68p	
Vol. 2: The Campaigns (2)		44p	
Vol. 3: Military Units - Devon and Cornwall		64p	
Vol. 4: Military Units - Devon Continued	Stuart Peachey	56p	£48.00
Vol. 5: Military Units - Dorset, Wiltshire and Somerset	& Alan Turton	62p	(set)
Vol. 6: Military Units - Bristol, Gloucestershire & Out of Area Units (1)		60p	
Vol. 7: Military Units - Out of Area (2) and Military System (1)		54p	
Vol. 8: Military System (2)		52p	

Gosling Press Publications

<i>Renaissance Battles 1494-1700 (Vol. 1).</i> Wargaming battles of the Renaissance period	£4.95
<i>Renaissance Battles 1494-1700 (Vol. 2).</i> " " "	£4.95
<i>The Letters of Nehemiah Wharton.</i> Edited by Stephen Ede-Borrett	£3.95
<i>Memoirs of Captain John Hodgson</i>	£4.50
<i>The Siege of Chester, Nathaniel Lancaster's Narrative.</i> Edited by J Lewis.	£4.00
<i>The Storm of Bristol, De Gomme's Account.</i> Edited by Stephen Ede-Borrett	£3.95
<i>Ensignes of the English Civil War</i> by Stephen Ede-Borrett. Includes 8 colour plates.	£8.50
<i>The First & Second Sieges of Pontefract Castle.</i> Ed. by Alison Walker	£5.95
<i>For King or Faith</i> by Ian Wilson. Wargames rules for the period 1562-1607	£4.95

Product Discounts for Members

Society members may claim discounts on purchases of the following products upon production of a valid membership card. If you have not received this or have lost it, please contact the Membership Secretary at the address on the back of *Arquebusier*. Postage to members will be extra, however if you wish to arranging collection at a show, then please give at least two weeks notice.

Books

Orders for discounted books must be sent to the *EDITOR (not the Postal Sales Officer)*, the discount cannot be obtained directly from the publisher. Note that the discounts apply to ALL books produced by these publishers, not just to those that fall with the Society's period.

Osprey Books – 20%

Web-site: www.ospreypublishing.com.

Boydell & Brewer Publications – 20%

Web-site: www.boydell.co.uk.

Tempus Publications – 25%

Web-site: www.tempus-publishing.com.

Pen & Sword Books – 25%

Web-site: www.pen-and-sword.co.uk

The Naval & Military Press – 10% for individual titles, or 25% for 10 or more

The discount only applies to books published by them, not those by other publishers that they retail. I can group orders together to obtain the larger discount if individuals are willing to wait a little while for their books. Web-site: www.naval-military-press.com.

Figures

Tabletop Games – 10%

6 Albany Close, Skegness, Lincs, PE25 2ND. Tel: 01754 767398.

East Riding Miniatures – 10%

1 The Woodlands, Goddard Avenue, Hull, HU5 2BW. Tel: 01482 445775. Web-site: www.eastridingminiatures.co.uk

Museum Miniatures – 10%

28 Long Lane, Driffield, Yorkshire, YO25 5HF. Tel/Fax: 01377 241010. Web-site: www.museumminiatures.co.uk

Old Glory – 10%

UK – Institute House, New Kyo, Stanley, Co. Durham DH9 7TJ. Tel: 01207 283332. Fax: 01207 281902.

US – Box 20, Calumet, PA 15621. Tel: 724 423 3580. Fax: 724 423 6898.

Web-site: wargames.co.uk/oldglory

Pendracken – 15%

1 Easby Grove, Eston, Middlesborough, North Yorkshire, TS6 9DL. Tel. 01642 460638. Web-site: www.pendracken.co.uk

Amazon Miniatures – 10% on orders over £50

Chaseley, 10 Langley Drive, Worsley, Manchester, M28 2TP. Tel: 0161 794 5279, Fax: 0161 794 4827 Web-site: www.amazonminiatures.com

Donnington Miniatures – 10%

15 Cromwell Road, Shaw, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 2HP. Tel: 01635 46627 (Daytime), Fax: 01635 46627. Email: donnington-mins@btconnect.com

Tin Soldier – 10%

18 Lion Lane, Billericay, Essex CM12 9DL. Tel/Fax: 01277 623697. Web-site: www.tinsoldieruk.com

Nýr Öld Design (Figure Painting) - 10%
www.rileybpool.btinternet.co.uk

Members should send their Membership number when taking advantage of any of these discounts. The Committee asks that members make maximum use of these offers so that the suppliers feel that their generosity to the Society is worthwhile commercially. We are actively investigating other opportunities to obtain product discounts for members.

George the First's Army 1714-1727 by Charles Dalton

The above two-volume set has been out of print for nearly 100 years and very expensive to obtain second-hand (the cheapest set I have ever seen was priced at over £300). Therefore its rather good news that *Naval & Military Press* has decided to reprint it. This is available in hardback for £68 or paperback for £48. See above for the Society discount on titles from this publisher.

The Irish Sword

Clive Hollick has advised me of some material in the latest issues of *The Irish Sword*, the journal of the *Military History Society of Ireland* that may be of interest to members:

Issue No. 95 (Summer 2004)

- Irish Tents in Spanish Flanders, winter 1641
- Roger Morrice, Sir Henry Hobart, and a new eyewitness account of the battle of the Boyne
- Defence from the dispossessed: the state-sponsored garrisoning of the South Tipperary landscape, c1650 - c1730

Issue No. 96 (Winter 2004)

- West Cork and the Elizabethan Wars, 1565 - 1603
- A Prayer for the good successe of her Majesties forces in Ireland [1599]
- Irish soldiers in Swedish service 1609-1613

The contact address of the journal is: Newman House, University College, 86, St Stephen's Green, Dublin 2, Ireland. Unfortunately they do not appear to have a web-site address.

British History On-Line

The web-site www.british-history.ac.uk/ has begun putting important historical documents on-line. So far, within the Society's period they have made the House of Commons Journals from 1547 to 1693 and the House of Lords Journals from 1509 to 1714 available. These have useful military information, especially relating to the Civil War, even if it requires some digging.

Historicon 2005 Report

Historicon is the largest of three conventions (the other two being *Fall In* and *Cold Wars*) held annually over a period of four days by HMGS (east) at the Lancaster Host Resort, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, USA.

As a wargames show, *Historicon* differs greatly from the shows in the UK in that its entire ethos is about wargaming as opposed to just being a site where traders can sell their goods with a few display games thrown in. Being held over four days, there is plenty of time for people to game, chat, exchange ideas, catch up with old friends, make new friends and even visit the trading hall to spend money on that new army you never wanted but could not resist.

In terms of organisation, HMGS are second to none. You can register for the show on line via their Website at <http://www.hmgs.org/>, also pre-ordering any HMGS goods you may wish to purchase. You can also avail yourself of the opportunity to book yourself in to play games you like the look of or even organise a game yourself. As games can start early in the morning and go on late into the night there is always plenty of time, there is even the opportunity to take part in or put on impromptu games which are set up on available tables. Upon arrival you are given a name badge, which is your show pass and a convention catalogue which gives you a map of the site, a list of games (with times and descriptions) and a list of traders, which is extremely useful, especially to someone visiting for the first time. There are also plenty of facilities to eat and drink at the show from a snack to a three course meal, and if you do not like the look of this, there are plenty of Diners nearby.

Lancaster itself is centrally located with the cities of Philadelphia, New York and Washington DC only a couple of hours drive away. In addition, for those of you with an interest in such things, there is the opportunity to visit some of the many American Civil War and American War of Independence battlefields, which are superbly laid out and preserved by the US National Parks service. I have so far visited Gettysburg, Antietam and Valley Forge, which are well worth the visit and I can thoroughly recommend.


The Pike and Shot Society

I set up the stand on the Thursday morning in the wargames competition room, along side the *Lance & Longbow Society*, manned by Dave Lanchester & Steve Ayers, who kindly assisted when I needed what is known in the trade as a natural break. We were both set up just outside the entrance to what the Americans call the 'Flea Market' and what we call 'the bring & buy' which was an ideal location for our societies. I did not set up the stand on the Friday as I was taking part in Bill Gray's Napoleonic *Age of Eagles* game which went on for most of the day, an which I can thoroughly recommend as the rules are now published and generally available.

On the Saturday morning, I was inundated with people as I was setting up the stand which was very pleasing although I could have done with another pair of hands to help out at that point. Overall, the Society was well received in the USA and with our publications not being generally available over there we did quite well. My thanks would go to Bill Rutherford who helped me in the booking and Scott Holder who was running the competition room and who helped me locate the society table.

Over all I managed to catch up with a lot of old friends and make some new ones, I even managed to put on an impromptu game of *General at Sea* which went down quite well. Finally, and above all, my thanks must go to Bill Gray (Society Webmaster-General) and Paula (Bills wife), for being such gracious hosts and for looking after me during my time in the USA.

Iain Stanford
Membership Secretary




Nyr Öld Design

Figure Painting

The Nyr Öld Design studio is a Switzerland based high quality wargamers figure painting service.

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For a comprehensive view of our services, including photographs and full price listings, please visit our website at:



<http://www.rileybpool.btinternet.co.uk>