

Mercurius



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

Late Issue

The arrival of this issue sees the longest gap between issues since I took over as editor, for which I apologise profusely. There have been three main reasons for this:

- As has been previously stated, my recent change in domestic circumstances means that I now have a line manager who has a somewhat different perspective on priorities to my own.
- A lack of material meant that for a considerable period of time I was simply unable to complete the issue - my thanks to Peter Lenders for coming to my rescue when asked.
- Illness that kept me off work for most of December also prevented me from doing any work on the journal.

The Pike and Shot Society Needs You!

Several committee members are standing down or changing posts, meaning that we have several vacancies that need to be filled (Editor & Membership Secretary from the end of the volume, the post of Publicity Officer is vacant now):

- *Editor of Arquebusier*: edit the journal approximately 6 times a year, liaise with artist and proof-readers, despatch copy to the printers, cajole and encourage contributors.
- *Membership Secretary*: maintain membership records, prepare labels for printers, advise Committee on membership matters.
- *Publicity Officer*: advise the Committee on publicity matters, liaise with the wargaming press to send review copies of Society publications, and a degree of correspondence.

Beyond these duties committee members are encouraged to attend committee meetings (approx 3 a year) and occasionally help out on the Society stand at shows. Any expressions of interest should be sent to the Chairman, Stephen Ede-Borrett.

The Northern Stand needs a New Home

Linked with the vacancy for the Publicity Officer is the need to find a new home for the Society's "Northern Stand". The society has two publicity stands that it takes to wargames shows and other events. One is run by the Editor, the other, the "Northern Stand" currently by myself. The stand consists of a couple of boxes of society publications, a

banner and some display items, so it does not take up much room. The key factor is a willingness to take to stand to some shows and represent the Society. There is no set number of shows you need visit, the Stand averages about four outings a year, to shows that I like and are convenient for me. You can also usually rope in some local members to help. It is good fun, you have the opportunity to meet many wargamers and see what the latest developments are in the trade. The sales income generated by the stand also provides an important source of income from sales of Society books and the recruitment of new members – its main purpose. One thing we do want, however, is to try and get the stand based outside the South East of England, for the simple objective of establishing a Society presence elsewhere in the country without members manning the stand having to travel huge distances (I am based in Peterborough). For further details please contact the Chairman.

Jonathan Wray

Forthcoming Society Attendance at Shows for 2008

WMMS	Wolverhampton	8 th March 2009
Salute	EXCEL, London	29 th March 2009
Triples	Sheffield	4 th /5 th April 2009

Events

Would anyone like to send me details of event likely to be of interest to members?

Society Merchandise

Please send orders to the *Postal Sales Officer* at the following address: David Ricketts, 61 Oak Walk, Hockely, Essex, SS5 5AR (e-mail: david.ricketts@lineone.net). 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: 15% for UK, 25% 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. Orders over £100 are sent post free.

Arquebusier

Volumes. These consist of all six issues from that volume, excluding any special publications that may have been distributed with it. The following are available:

Vols. 16, 17, 19, 23, 25, 26, 27 £5 Vols. 228, 29 £10 Vol. 30 £20

***** PRICES REDUCED TO CLEAR BACK STOCK *****

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 £5

Binders. These are slip-cases and 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 will hold two volumes of *Arquebusier* and cost £6.50 each.

Society Publications (Prices discounted for Society Members)

Uniforms and Colours of the Wars of Louis XIV

These volumes provide the most detailed and comprehensive studies of the armies of the age of Sun King to have been published in any language. They represent 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.

- *Flags and Uniforms of the French Infantry under Louis XIV, 1688-1714* by Robert Hall
Describes the appearance of over 280 regiment of foot in 140 pages of text and 116 full-colour plates.
Cloth - OUT OF STOCK **Paper** £55 (*Members*); £65 (*Public*)
- *Standards and Uniforms of the French Cavalry under Louis XIV, 1688-1714* by Robert Hall, Giancarlo Boeri & Yves Roumegoux.
The appearance of over 170 regiments of cavalry is described in 180 pages of text and 62 full-colour plates.
Cloth £80 (*Members*); £90 (*Public*) **Paper - OUT OF STOCK**
- *Guidons, Flags and Uniforms of the French Dragoons, Militia, Artillery and Bombardiers under Louis XIV, 1688-1714* by Robert Hall, Yves Roumegoux & Giancarlo Boeri
Covering the lesser branches of the French army, it contains 140 pages of text and 29 full-colour plates.
Cloth - OUT OF STOCK **Paper - OUT OF STOCK**
- *The Army of the Electorate Palatine Under Elector Johann Wilhelm 1690-1716* by Claus-Peter Golberg & Robert Hall
Contains 144 pages of text and 20 full-colour plates.
Cloth £50 (*Members*); £60 (*Public*) **Paper** £35 (*Members*); £45 (*Public*)
- *The Armies of Hesse and the Upper Rhine Circle* by Robert Hall
Contains 310 pages of text and 45 full-colour plates.
Cloth £70 (*Members*); £80 (*Public*) **Paper** £45 (*Members*); £55 (*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 French point of view.
- 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)

Other Society Books

- *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)

- *Waller's Army. The Regiments of Sir William Waller's Southern Association* by Laurence Spring

Of all the generals of the English Civil War, Sir William Waller (1597-1668) probably best expressed its tragedy, referring to it as 'this war without an enemy' when writing to his friend Sir Ralph Hopton, whom he faced across the battlefield. Despite this he was a successful general, earning the nickname 'William the Conqueror'. After his first army was routed at Roundway Down he received a commission to raise a new army. Although he continued to have victories, such as at Alton and Cheriton, he was never given the resources to follow up these victories. When the regional armies were eventually reformed into the 'New Model Army', Waller lost his command, and so his military career ended. This book analyses the regiments that made up his second army, which became known as the Southern Association. A 186 page paperback book with 6 pages of colour plates.

£12 (Members); £16 (Public)

- *Lostwithiel 1644 - The Campaign and Battles* by Stephen Ede-Borrett

The summer 1644 campaign in the West of England was an exceptional feat of arms for the Royalist armies and, in contrast, a vivid demonstration of the complete lack of ability of their Parliamentary opponents to work together. The resultant catastrophic defeat of the Earl of Essex's army was, together with the failure at Newbury that autumn, was highly influential in the vote that created the New Model Army in the following winter. Despite this, 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)

'An ill journey for the Englishmen'. Elis Gruffydd and the 1523 French campaign of the Duke of Suffolk. Transcribed by M. Byrn Davies and edited by Jonathan Davies.

This 'most ill-conceived and ill-managed war' was how Sir Charles Oman, the great historian of Renaissance warfare, described the English invasion of France in 1523. This hopelessly misguided campaign saw an English army meander aimlessly over Northern France to little effect, reaching as far as Montdidier before retiring back to the Channel with its tail between its legs. The story is told largely in the words of contemporary documents and in particular through the eyes of Elis Gruffydd, an articulate Welsh soldier who left a journal of his experiences full of vigour, freshness and well-developed sense of irony. A 72-page paperback book

£6.50 (Members); £10 (Public)

- *Elis Gruffydd 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* by Jonathan Davies

A 64-page paperback book 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.

£6.50 (Members); £10.00 (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)

Wargames Rules

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

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| Rules for land warfare in the period 1660 – 1721 | £6.50 (<i>Members</i>); £10 (<i>Public</i>) |
| • <i>General-At-Sea</i> by Iain Stanford | |
| Rules for naval warfare in the period 1640 – 1721 | £6.50 (<i>Members</i>); £10 (<i>Public</i>) |
| • <i>Husaria</i> by Iain Wilson | |
| Rules for East European warfare 1558 – 1699 | £9 (<i>Members</i>); £12 (<i>Public</i>) |
| • <i>Twilight of the Sun King</i> by Andrew Corby and Steven Thomas | |
| Fast-play rules of the Marlburian period | £2 (<i>Members</i>); £3 (<i>Public</i>) |

Books by Other Publishers

The Society carries a wide range of titles produced by *Stuart Press* and *Gosling Press*. These are listed in full on the Society's web-site and are also available from the stand at shows.

Product Discounts for Members

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 within the Society's period. Postage to members will be extra, however if you wish to arranging collection at a show then please give at least two weeks notice.

- **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** – 20%. Web-site: www.pen-and-sword.co.uk
- **The Naval & Military Press** – 25% for 10 or more books. The discount only applies to their own books, not those by other publishers. Orders will be grouped if individuals are willing to wait a little while. Web-site: www.naval-military-press.com.
- Books distributed by **Eurospan** in the UK – 25%. *Eurospan* are the UK distributors for a large number of U.S. academic publishers. A full list of these may be found on their web-site at www.eurospan.co.uk.

Figures

Society members may claim discounts on purchases from the following companies at shows upon production of a valid membership card, or by post/internet by quoting their current membership number. If you have not received this or have lost it, please contact the Membership Secretary at the address on the back of *Arquebusier*.

- **Vexillia (UK Stockists of Venexia and Mirliton)** – (10% by cheque, 5% by Paypal – min order £25). 4 Oak Wharf Mews, Birchdale Road, Appleton, Warrington, WA4 5AS. Tel 01925 860 053.
- **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
- **Donnington Miniatures - 10%**. 15 Cromwell Road, Shaw, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 2HP. Tel: 01635 46627 (Daytime), Fax: 01635 46627. Email: donningtonmins@btconnect.com
- **Tin Soldier - 10%**. 18 Lion Lane, Billericay, Essex CM12 9DL. Tel/Fax: 01277 623697. Web-site: www.tinsoldieruk.com
- **Reiver Castings - 10%**. % Under the Bed Enterprises, Unit 28, Stonehills, Shields Road, Pelaw, Gateshead, NE10 0HW. Tel: 0191 4385585 ext 254 and www.underbed.co.uk.
- **Nýr Öld Design (Figure Painting) - 10%**. <http://home.citycable.ch/nyrolddesign>
- **The Assault Group - 5%**. Unit K, Broxtowe Park Business Centre, Nottingham, Nottinghamshire, NG8 6QP. Tel: 0115 913 3591. Email: info@theassaultgroup.com. Website: www.theassaultgroup.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.

Letters

The Commandery at Worcester

Admittedly, the last day of November's not the best of times to wander around an English city looking for signs of the last battle of the Civil Wars, but despite the cold I found it entertaining.

Worcester's a fine place, and the battle sites from 1651 are still recognisable on the south-eastern edge of the old town near the Sidbury gate. Sadly the King's bastion at Fort Royal's little more than a bump in the ground now, but the *Commandery*, the Royalist forward HQ is well worth a visit.

This is a 'living history' museum, at least in sound, rather than a series of exhibits. There are few exhibits, but each of the score of rooms in the rambling medieval building has a relevant sound track on the audio device provided in the entry price of £5.75 which gives a remarkably clear picture of the hectic day of battle. Of course a building which is 800 years old isn't simply committed historically to a single day, however crucial to the state, so there are several other layers of history to peel back. I found it a valuable visit.

The *Commandery*, like so many other Civil War sites, is used for re-enactment and 'living history' events. In 2008, from 23rd August to 3rd September it was home to a large group of re-enactors and related crafts including a military camp. It is an annual event.

Charles Stuart minor watched the battle from the nearby cathedral tower, and tours of this, with some remarkable views over the remaining parts of the battlefield are also available, but not on a freezing November afternoon! In fact, it's possible with little effort

to trace the route of the Royalist retreat along Friar Street past the Tudor House and Greyfriars to St. Martins, where Charles fled the City. The Cathedral incidentally, has a plaque to William Hamilton the Scots Royalist Commander who died of his wounds after the battle.

Worcester presents several regular events on the City's role in the Civil Wars, and more information can be found on their website.

Rob Morgan

Field of Glory Renaissance Wars

In February 2008 Slitherine Software and Osprey Publishing launched a new Wargaming rules set for playing ancient and medieval battles that took the gaming world by storm. On forums and at events interest was immense and first year sales exceeded all expectations. Now Slitherine are pleased to announce that development has already begun on two new periods in the Field of Glory series that should prove equally exciting for the wargaming community.

Field of Glory Renaissance Wars and Field of Glory Napoleonic Wars are being developed to the same stringent criteria as Field of Glory: Ancient and Medieval by a team of wargaming experts including many of the original writers of the previous volume. They will have the same combination of challenging, but not overwhelming complexity and exciting playability as well as retaining the same high production values as before.

Field of Glory Renaissance Wars is being designed to allow players to concentrate on realistic deployments and battlefield tactics of the early modern era capturing the atmosphere of battles ranging from the Italian Wars of the early sixteenth century through to the conflicts of the standing armies at the end of the seventeenth century, not only in Europe but around the world. The rules will bring to the tabletop exciting battles of massed pike, flaming arquebus's and armoured cavalry charges as gunpowder slowly superseded lance and sword.

Field of Glory - The Napoleonic Wars enters the ever-popular Napoleonic era as a game designed to accurately reflect the reality of conflict in an age of colourful uniforms, muddy battlefields, volleys of musketry, cannon barrages and bloody cavalry charges. It covers a broad period from the beginning of the 1st Coalition against the French revolutionary armies in 1792, and ending with the 7th coalition and the final defeat of Napoleon at Waterloo in 1815.

JD McNeil, Director of Slitherine Software commented: "Field of Glory: Ancient and Medieval has been a tremendous success that has re-invigorated the wargaming community playing this period. I am convinced that the same combination of wargaming expertise, enthusiasm and commitment coupled with the professionalism and high production values of Osprey Publishing should ensure a similar level of success for these two new products. We have a lot of work to do before launch but I'm looking forward to it!"

[Ed. This press release makes these rules sound like the best thing since sliced bread. Reading between the lines they strike me as yet another set written for another period and then made to 'fit' the Renaissance period by people who don't necessarily understand it. I may, of course, be wrong and would be interested in member's views, or even a review!]