

Mercurius



Submissions for both *Mercurius* and *Arquebusier* should be sent to the editor at: 26 Fitzmilliam House, Little Green, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 1QW. It does make the editor's life considerably easier if submissions are provided in electronic format on clarkmj1@gmail.com

Previous copies of *Mercurius* are posted on the Society's web-site.

Membership Re-subscription Form

Although it was in last issue of *Mercurius* some of you may have forgotten to do it. If so this is your reminder. Please check for the form on the website!

A moment of self indulgence!

Neil kindly mentioned my novel, *Munro Gentleman Adventurer*. (Which I am toying with the idea of re-naming *Munro and the King's Rescue* - any opinions or comments gratefully received on that idea!) This is set in Moldavia/Wallachia in 1710 during the Carolingian exile in Bender. It is currently online (in serial format) so if anyone wants to have a free read you can find it at either:

http://bozo.typepad.com/munro_gentleman_adventure/

or

<http://authonomy.com/ViewBook.aspx?bookid=22821>

Comments are always welcome either directly or via either of the online editions. One of the society's members (*Thank You Michael!*) helped enormously with a full reading of my first finished version. The Novel is now on a later draft and if anyone wants to volunteer to read all of it please let me know. About half is online, and the full novel is about the same length as *A Tale of Two Cities*.

***** Postal Sales Suspended *****

For administrative reasons, postal sales of Society merchandise has, regrettably, been suspended. We hope to resolve this situation as speedily as possible.

A Note on Submissions for Arquebusier

Firstly let me reiterate the plea in my maiden editorial for more submissions! I cannot state too strongly that Arquebusier can only exist as long as you the members write for it. The magazine is the product of the membership.

It is true that the Society has developed a strong reputation for the quality of Arquebusier and for the many publications generated under the editorship of my predecessor. This reputation is an asset to be proud of but I do feel that some potential contributors among the membership may be daunted by the quality of what they read! It can be quite challenging to submit your work into a critical arena where the existing quality is extremely high. Speaking as an aspiring author who has submitted his life's work manuscript into the gaping maw of literary agent apathy and criticism I do know how hard it can be for someone to expose their writing to the judgement of the world.

I do want to encourage a broader base of authors for Arquebusier though without doing anything to deter those regular contributors who have been instrumental in making Arquebusier so highly regarded.

So what does this mean in practice?

It means boot up your word software young man and write something!

If you have some in depth knowledge of something then write us an article! If you are well-read in some area of the period, write us an article. If you have just read a great book, write us a review. If you have visited a battlefield or a museum, write us something.

Book reviews are particularly valuable to our members. Specialist books covering warfare in our period are not to be found in every bookshop, and, when one finds one in an online bookshop it rarely carries much of a review or any in depth information on contents. It is of great value in making a purchasing decision when members can read a review by a peer.

Obviously I want you to submit great material, but I don't want you to be deterred in your creativity if you feel your writing leaves something to be desired. Feel free to email me to discuss any ideas you have and we can create a strategy for an article.

A note on Wargaming Articles

Rule and figure reviews are always useful to readers. Battle reports, in my experience often interest the participants for more than the neutral reader! Although there are exceptions to this, my membership of the Naval Wargames Society back in the 1970s was triggered entirely by a report of a Russo-Japanese action of 1913 (apocryphal of course!) which was so well written and so educational on tactics that I just had to find out more!

I have a particular fondness for articles which deal with campaign mechanisms. Believing as I do that only the campaign allows wargamers a challenge even close to that of generalship in the field.

If you have an idea for a wargaming article please drop me a line.

A note on submissions for Mercurius

As the newsletter of the society Mercurius is here to be your voice/broadcast media. If you know of an event or a new book/movie/tv series do please make this known. Traditionally Mercurius has an eight page limit, with this issues four pages being perhaps more typical. There remains plenty of space to be used and I must state publicly that I am not really well informed about events shows and so on (it is perhaps a grievous failing in an editor!).

Please let me know what's going on!

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 - 10% (Min order £50)**. 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: donnington-mins@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.
- **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
- **Les Higgins Miniatures - 10%**. Email: CunnJoh@aol.com

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.