



## The Society for Army Historical Research

Registered Charity No. 247844

[www.sahr.co.uk](http://www.sahr.co.uk)

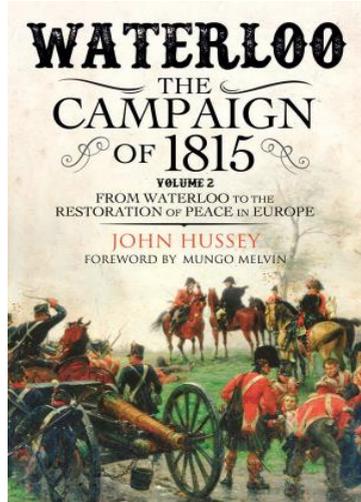
### AUTUMN NEWSLETTER - September 2018

#### AUTUMN EVENTS

#### The Templer Lecture – Monday 12 November 2018



We are delighted that John Hussey (seen *left* receiving the 2018 Templer Medal for his two-volume work on *Waterloo: The Campaign of 2015*), has agreed to deliver this year's Templer Lecture. It will take place at The Army & Navy Club, St James



Square, Pall Mall at 6.30 for 7pm on Mon 12 Nov 2018. The event is free to SAHR members, and each member is welcome to bring a guest. Please register, either by email to [events@sahr.org.uk](mailto:events@sahr.org.uk) or by sending the attached proforma. There will be a three-

course dinner afterwards from 8pm, at a cost of £50 for those who wish to stay.

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#### Templer Lecture & Dinner – Mon 12 Nov 2015

Please fill in the form in CAPITAL LETTERS:

I wish to book .....places for the Templer Lecture on Mon 12 Nov 2018.

NAME:.....

EMAIL:.....TELEPHONE No. ....

GUEST'S NAME.....

OPTIONAL: In addition, I/we wish to book .....seats for the Templer Dinner starting at 8pm – at a cost of £50 per person.

My dietary requirements are: .....

I enclose a cheque for £..... (those staying to dinner only)

SIGNED:.....

Please send completed proforma, plus cheque if applicable, to:

Adam Storing, SAHR Events Member, 9 Blakeney Close, London N20 9LH  
(or send relevant information to Adam at [events@sahr.org.uk](mailto:events@sahr.org.uk))

### **‘Wellington, San Sebastian and Siege Warfare’**

In June, members enjoyed a talk by Prof Bruce Collins (*right*) on Wellington’s siege of San Sebastian in 1813. San Sebastian proved a tougher nut to crack than Wellington expected – a recurring failing which sparked animated discussion on Wellington’s generalship which continued over a wine reception and then over dinner. SAHR is most grateful to Kings College for hosting the event, and William Fletcher for organising it.



### **‘Everyday Soldiering, Military Welfare and the Human Costs of the English Civil Wars’ Tue 11 September 2018**

We remind members of the talk by Council Member Dr Ismini Pells taking place at 7pm on Tuesday 11 September at the Army and Navy Club on this fascinating subject. Please register via SAHR’s website, [www.sahr.co.uk](http://www.sahr.co.uk)

### **‘Warfare in the Victorian Age’, Saturday 15 September 2018**

Hopefully members will also already know of this event from our website and social media. It takes place at The ‘Y’ Theatre, 7 East Street, Leicester LE1 6EY on Sat 15 Sep 2018 from 10 am to 6 pm and will feature new research from both early career historians and senior scholars. Tickets are available to SAHR members at a discounted price of £20 from [www.helion.co.uk](http://www.helion.co.uk) (use the discount code 'SAHR2018'). This covers entrance, a buffet lunch and a concluding drinks party.

### **Malvern Festival of Military History, Friday 5 – Sun 7 October 2018**

This event will take place at Severn End, Hanley Castle in Worcestershire on the weekend of 5-7 October. Speakers include Professor Gary Sheffield, Sir Max Hastings, Dr Andrew Roberts and Lord Paddy Ashdown. SAHR is a featured exhibitor, and SAHR members are entitled to a 10% discount on Malvern Festival tickets - available at [www.enlightenmentevents.com](http://www.enlightenmentevents.com), and please quote the code ‘MEMBER’ when booking.

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## **MEMBERSHIP NOTICES**

We welcome Christopher Palmer as SAHR’s new Hon. Membership Secretary. He can be contacted on [membership@sahr.org.uk](mailto:membership@sahr.org.uk). He will run our new Membership Administration facility on the SAHR website. This enables members to check and update your membership details online; Gift Aid your subscriptions if you are a UK income taxpayer; and gain free access to SAHR Journals back to 1921.. **IMPORTANT:** To get the best out of this service, and to receive up-to-date information on membership matters and SAHR events, we need to know your email contact address. If you pay subs by PayPal then we will already have your email address. If not, please email Christopher and ask him to add your email details to his list. Needless to say, any contact details provided will be fully protected by GDPR and used only for SAHR business.

## 2019 EVENTS

### Annual Members' Meeting 2019 – April 2019

The 2019 SAHR Annual Members Meeting will take place on **Tue 9 April**. As usual it will be held at a prestigious location in London and will include: an afternoon visit to a historical site, the Annual General Meeting, a Lecture (by Rory Muir), Prizegiving and Reception. Details of location and Guest of Honour will follow – but for now, *please hold the date!*

### 2019 SAHR Battlefield Tour – Malta, November 2019



Following this year's well-attended and successful tour to Spain, next year's SAHR Battlefield tour will take us to Malta in Autumn 2019.

Led by our Chairman and battlefield tour guide Gen Ashley Truluck, the tour will explore Malta's history from the arrival of the Knights of St John; through the Great Siege of 1565; the British Colonial heyday; its role as a naval base and hospital centre in World War I; and finally its epic defence in the World War II siege – earning the

island's population a George Cross. We will see ample evidence of the island's rich heritage of military fortifications and civic architecture, and its landscape and coastal scenery. We will be accommodated in the famous Hotel Phoenicia just outside Valetta's awesome city walls and the 6-day itinerary includes:

**Day 1: Fly to Malta landing at Luqa** – RAF Bomber Command airfield in World War II. Walking tour of Valetta and introductory film, talk and drinks.

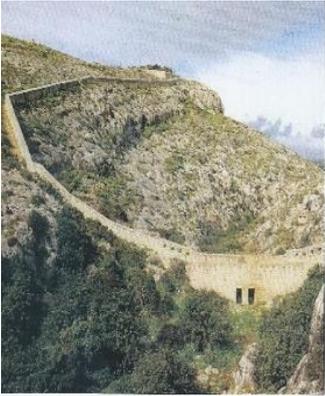
**Day 2: The Great Siege:** Explore Fort St Elmo, the crucible of the 1565 siege and location of the excellent National War Museum. After lunch in Valetta town square, we visit the Grand Master's Palace and Armoury.

**Day 3: From the Knights to the Victorians:** Take a coach drive up the east coast to view lookout towers and signalling stations of the era of the Knights of St John. In the afternoon, visit the perfectly-preserved Fort Rinella where we take a buffet lunch, view its 100-ton gun, and enjoy demonstrations of Victorian soldiering and horsemanship.

**Day 4: WW2 Siege: Land & Air Defences:**

Today we explore the western part of the island and take lunch in the beautiful ancient capital of Mдина (*right*). We view Victoria Lines (*overleaf*); the site of the 'Mosta Miracle' in WW2; Imtarfa Barracks; and Ta'qali airfield – the RAF fighter base in WW2, with its excellent air museum; and finally drive back via the dramatic Dingli Cliffs.





### Day 5: WW2 Siege: Maritime & Home Fronts:

This morning we take a relaxing boat cruise of the magnificent Grand Harbour and recall maritime exploits such as the heroic defence of HMS Illustrious and the arrival of the 'Santa Maria' Convoy. Disembarking at Birgu Wharf (*right*) for lunch, we visit the 'Malta at War' Museum and see how the civilian population survived underground in WW2.



### Day 6: Command & Control:

A short walk from our hotel takes us to the Lascaris War Rooms – carved from sheer rock 60 feet below ground and used as the secret Command Centre for the WW2 siege (*right*) and then the invasion of Italy.



(Above: Victoria Lines)

We return to ground level for the famous Noon Day Gun ceremony (*below*) – before taking a final stroll around the splendours of Valetta.



### ESSENTIALS:

Return Flights from London.  
5-Star Hotel in Valetta including breakfast.  
3 course dinner with wine each evening.  
Coach trips and harbour tour.  
All entrance fees and tours.  
Expert guide plus local guide when required.

**Planned Dates and Price:** Six days in first week November 2019. £1550 based on minimum of 10 takers. Single supplement £310. Open to all SAHR members, their partners, families and friends.

**How to Book:** We need 10 takers - so:

In the first instance: Please register your interest (and expected numbers of participants) by emailing [chair@sahr.org.uk](mailto:chair@sahr.org.uk) or ringing Ashley Truluck on 01722-780852. Do this even if you have already informally expressed an interest. As soon as we reach 10 interested participants we will confirm the date and price and ask for a deposit. Full payment due 2 months before departure date. For full T&Cs visit [www.theculturalexperience.com](http://www.theculturalexperience.com)