



The Society for Army Historical Research

Registered Charity No. 247844

NEWSLETTER - SPRING 2020

For more details go to our website: www.sahr.org.uk

NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S NOTE

The emphasis in this Spring 2020 Newsletter is on the forthcoming Annual Members Meeting on 22nd April at the Royal Thames Yacht Club in Knightsbridge, London. There is much of importance at this AMM, including the election/re-election of Council Members and consideration of Constitutional Amendments. Some other material, such as proposed battlefield tours, has therefore been held over until the Summer Newsletter.

The AMM is to be preceded by an optional guided tour of Apsley House on Hyde Park Corner. The AMM itself will be followed first by a lecture by Maj. Gen. (Ret'd) Julian Thompson CB, OBE on the Dunkirk campaign of 1940, and then by the Awards ceremony for the Templer Medal and Essay Prizes. The evening will be concluded with a Reception. The program is detailed on page 3 of this Newsletter and on the Events tab on our Website www.sahr.org.uk.

Hon. Membership Secretary

RECENT EVENTS

6 February: 'Rogues with Rifles: The 5/60th Rifles in the Peninsular War'
Lecture by Robert Griffith at the National Army Museum in London

Griffith, an author and historian with a lifelong interest in the Napoleonic Wars, offered an entertaining and informative overview of the history of the 5/60th, one of only three units present in the Peninsula from the landings in 1808 through to victory in France in 1814.

He discussed some of the extraordinary characters he discovered while researching his recent book 'Riflemen' - copies of which sold out even before the talk began! The audience was regaled with tales of looting, murder and treachery, but also steadfastness, loyalty and heroism.

Griffith's talk was followed by a stimulating Q&A session. Afterwards, SAHR members continued the conversation at a nearby Chelsea pub.

FUTURE EVENTS

Saturday 19th September 2020: The Jacobite Rising of 1745

The Prestoungrange Gothenburg, 227-229 High Street, Prestonpans

SAHR is pleased to co-sponsor a conference to mark the 275th anniversary of the 1745 Jacobite Rising, organised by Helion and Co. and the Battle of Prestonpans (1745) Heritage Trust. This will take place on Saturday 19 Sept 2020, as part of a series of events marking the 275th anniversary of the Battle of Prestonpans. Full details are available at:

<https://www.helion.co.uk/military-history-shows-and-conferences/1745-conference-2020.php>.

SAHR members can obtain a £5 discount on ticket purchases by using the code 1745SEP2020 when buying.

Autumn 2020 – at a date and location to be published later.

To be held at the National Army Museum in London

The Director of the National Army Museum (Justin Maciejewski) has accepted an invitation to talk to us about his experiences in Iraq.

FICTION PRIZE

We are now accepting entries for the 2019-2020 **SAHR Prize for Military Fiction**, awarded in conjunction with the Malvern Military History Festival. The prize recognises accurate and well-researched fictional portrayals of the British Army.

The inaugural Fiction Prize last year was won by Alan Mallinson for his 'The Passage to India', seen here being presented with his award by the Hon. Secretary.

For more details, please see the Competition tab on our Website, or at:

<https://www.sahr.org.uk/fiction-prize-competition.php>.



2020 ANNUAL MEMBERS' MEETING

Wednesday 22 April 2020

Location: The Royal Thames Yacht Club, 60 Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7LF

We are delighted to announce that this year's Annual Members' Meeting will take place at the prestigious Royal Thames Yacht Club at 60 Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7LF (directions below). The provisional programme is as follows:

5.00 pm SAHR Annual Members' Meeting

6.00 pm Lecture – Maj.-Gen. (Ret'd) Julian Thompson R.M. (Commander Land Forces in Falklands War) will speak on both military and naval aspects of the Dunkirk campaign of 1940.



7.30 pm Awards Ceremony - Templer Medal, Essay Prizes.

8.00 pm Reception

Members are welcome to attend any or all parts of the AMM, and providing space allows, may bring a guest without charge (places for guests are booked on a first come first served basis). Dress code for the occasion is jacket and tie (preferably lounge suit) or equivalent.

AMM Registration is via the link on the Events page on our Website or via Eventbrite at:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sahr-2020-annual-members-meeting-tickets-86903138627>

2020 ANNUAL MEMBERS' MEETING (continued)

3.30 pm Apsley House Tour



SAHR members and their guests are invited to take a tour of Apsley House on the afternoon of 22 April 2020 prior to the Annual Member's Meeting at the Royal Thames Yacht Club. Please note that this tour is only open to SAHR members and their guests.

Members must register in advance **separately** from

the AMM using the link on the Events page on our Website or via Eventbrite : <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sahr-apsley-house-tour-tickets-96433233397> and **pay a specially discounted** rate of £7.06 including the registration fee to participate in the tour.

Members are asked to arrive at Apsley House by 3.15 pm. The tour starts promptly at 3.30 pm and should last for one hour. The Royal Thames Yacht Club is then a six-minute walk from Apsley House.

Royal Thames Yacht Club - <https://www.royalthames.com>

Directions: Take the Underground to Hyde Park Corner Station and walk westwards on the north side of Knightsbridge, or go to Knightsbridge Tube Station and walk eastwards.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Your Council will present to the 2020 AGM Constitutional Amendments agreed at a meeting of Council held on 12 December 2019. The intention is to make election and re-election of the Chair and Council easier to understand than at present. The detailed changes are included with this newsletter. They can be compared to the 2019 Constitution on the Society's website which can be found under the tab 'About Us' and then 'Constitution.'