



Summer 2013

Engagement

The newsletter of the London & South-East Region of the Battlefields Trust

Introduction With the coming of Summer the Battlefields Trust has entered its busy phase with numerous events and walks going on up and down the country. So try and turn up to as many events as possible, we need your support! Remember to go on to the 'Events' page of our website, www.battlefieldstrust.com for up to date information on all our events.

The Trust arranged to have a stand at both the English Heritage 'History Live' Festival at Kelmarsh in Northamptonshire, 20/21 July, and at the Battle of Bosworth re-enactment weekend, 17/18 August. Our stand at Kelmarsh attracted a lot of interest and we signed up a lot of new members. We are hoping to be equally successful at Bosworth.

The Battle of Blackheath 1497

The LSE Region is now looking at the battle of Blackheath (a.k.a. the Battle of Deptford Bridge) with a view to making more of this important battle in 1497 which saw the rout of an army of 10,000 Cornish rebels, lifted the threat of an attack on London and pre-empted Perkin Warbeck's attempt to restart the Wars of the Roses three months later. Watch out for an article in the magazine, but, in the meantime, if anyone lives on or near the battlefield or has any specialist knowledge or expertise on this battle(field), please can they contact Peter Burley on peterburley@btinternet.com

St Albans

On the 16th of July the Battlefields Trust presented the historic 15th Century Boot Inn, in St Albans, with an information panel commemorating the

location of the pub during the First Battle of St Albans 1455. The Boot in St Albans Market Place is the first pub to be adopted by the Battlefields Trust as a 'Battlefields Pub', an historic public house that is on or near the site of a British Battlefield. The First Battle of St Albans was fought on the 22nd May 1455 and was the opening battle in the Wars of the Roses between the Houses of York and Lancaster. Parts of the Boot date back to the time of that initial battle, which resulted in a victory for the Yorkists. But the Wars continued for over 30 years climaxing in 1485 with the defeat and death of the Yorkist King Richard III at the Battle of Bosworth before ending at the Battle of Stoke Field in 1487. Harvey Watson, the Chairman of the London & South-East Region of the Battlefields Trust, presented pub landlord Will Hughes with an Information panel commemorating the Inn's location during the First Battle of St Albans.



Pub landlord Will Hughes accepts the information panel from LSE Chairman Harvey Watson.

St Albans was also in the news in August as marking the beginning of the 800th anniversary celebrations of Magna Carta, which will reach their climax in

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June 1215. In August 1213 St Albans Cathedral was the venue for the very first meeting between barons and clergy to discuss their grievances against King John. That historic meeting eventually led to the document we know as Magna Carta, sealed at Runnymede two years later. Only four copies of the original 1215 document have survived, two are kept in the British library, one in Lincoln Cathedral, one in Salisbury Cathedral. The copy from Lincoln Cathedral is on loan to St Albans and will be on display throughout August. The Battlefields Trust is of course fully supporting the Magna Carta 800th project and further information will be regularly appearing on the 'News' page of the Battlefields Trust website.

Many of the dead from the two Battles of St Albans 1455 and 1461, during the Wars of the Roses were buried in the historic St Peters Church at the North end of the town. Unfortunately, the reformation and later Victorian 'modernisers' managed to destroy all of the original monuments. The Battlefields Trust are having discussions with the Church authorities about either having a memorial or an information panel to commemorate the long-forgotten fallen from these two battles.

London & South-East Region Events

Please note that unless otherwise stated most LSE events are free to Battlefields Trust members, however, a charge of £5 per head will normally be levied on non-members. Forthcoming London & South East events for your diary include:

Saturday, 14 September 2013, Battle of Worcester 1651.

The walk will be in two parts, with the morning looking at the western part of the Worcester battlefield and the afternoon the centre part. Departs: morning 10:30 AM, Manor Farm pub, Malvern Road WR2 4BS (refreshments and lunch available). Afternoon 2 PM at the Ketch Viewpoint at junction of A38

and A4440. The walks are partly on footpaths which can be overgrown/muddy in places so suitable footwear/clothing is advised. Contact Tony Spicer, e-mail: a.spicer@btinternet.com or telephone (01684) 572925.



Re-enactors in action at the English Heritage 'History live 2013' festival.

Thursday 19th September, Meeting of the London & South-East Region.

The meeting will be looking at the forthcoming programme of events and ongoing projects. All members are welcome. Meet at 'The Boot Inn', the Market Place, St Albans at 7pm.

Exhibition of Graham Turner's Medieval Art 4th - 6th October 2013

Historical artist Battlefields Trust member Graham Turner is holding a major exhibition of his paintings at Halton House, Wendover in Buckinghamshire. There is a 10% discount on all cards and prints for Battlefields Trust members, quote 'Battlefields Trust' when ordering. Further details can be found on http://www.studio88.co.uk/acatalog/Latest_News.html

Saturday 5th October, One day Conference on Medieval Society.

"At the margins of Medieval Society?" The Simon de Montfort Society have organised a one day conference to be held at the Cotswold Conference Centre, Farncombe Estate, Broadway,

Worcestershire, WR12 7LI. Academics and historians will look at the reality of Medieval Society. The cost of £55 will include morning coffee, lunch and afternoon tea. For further details email David Snowden on earlsimon@aol.com



The Battlefields Trust stand at the English Heritage 'History live 2013' festival.

Sunday 13 October 2013, Second battle of Newbury (1644).

Join Simon Marsh for a walk of one of the decisive battles of the Civil War and help raise funds for an interpretation panel there. As this is a fundraising walk, a charge of £10 will be made for all those joining the walk, including Battlefields Trust members, which will cover both the morning and afternoon parts of the walk. Simon will discuss the western part of the battlefield in the morning and the eastern side in the afternoon. Meet 10:30am at the entrance to Speen Recreation ground on Station Road, Speen (RG14 1UD) for the morning walk and 2:30pm outside Shaw House, Church Road, Shaw, (RG14 2DR) for the afternoon. Contact Simon on 01844-274112 or email: merciam@battlefieldstrust.com for further details and book a place.

Thursday 14th November, Meeting of the London & South-East Region.

Details to be confirmed.

Saturday 16th November 2013, Talk on the Battle of Edgehill 1642.

The Battlefields Trust will be giving a talk on the Battle of Edgehill at 2.30 pm at Banbury Museum, Oxfordshire. Contact Simon Marsh on 01844-274112 or email: merciam@battlefieldstrust.com for further details and to book a place.

Sunday 5th January 2014, 1940 London Blitz walk.

Laurence Burrridge will be telling the dramatic story of the December 1940 Blitz on London. Meet at 2pm at the firemen's memorial on the Thames side of St Pauls. The walk will be some 2 miles long and last approx 2 hours. Contact Laurence on [laurence.burrridge](mailto:lsburrridge@hotmail.com)

Thursday 16th January 2014 Meeting of the London & South-East Region.
Details to be confirmed.

Saturday 18th January 2014, Talk on the Battle of Cropredy Bridge 1644.

The Battlefields Trust will be giving a talk on the Battle of Cropredy Bridge at 2.30 pm at Banbury Museum, Oxfordshire. Contact Simon Marsh on 01844-274112 or email: merciam@battlefieldstrust.com for further details and to book a place.

Saturday 22nd February 2014, Talk on the Battle of Edgcote 1469.

The Battlefields Trust will be giving a talk on the Battle of Edgcote at 2.30 pm at Banbury Museum, Oxfordshire. Contact Simon Marsh on 01844-274112 or email: merciam@battlefieldstrust.com for further details and to book a place.