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The 15th century saw England bear witness to its very own game of thrones. For decades, the Houses of York and Lancaster battled for the crown in what would become known as the Wars of the Roses. In a dramatic finale on Bosworth Field, Henry Tudor slew Richard III and crowned himself King Henry VII. With this, he ushered in a new dynasty, perhaps the greatest his country would ever see. From page 28, we explain just how Henry won the battle that marked the dawn of the Tudors.

Elsewhere, we get inside the hunt for the Wild West’s most-wanted killer, revealing once and for all whether Billy the Kid survived his final showdown with sheriff Pat Garrett. Turn to page 68 to learn the truth. We also expose ten of history’s worst ever prisons from page 78, and from page 52, we tell the inspirational story of the Harlem Hellfighters.

Finally, if you’re starting to think about Christmas gifts, why not save yourself a lot of hassle and get your loved one a subscription to All About History? Turn to page 62, or 91 if you’re in the US, to find out more.
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ENJOYED THE MAGAZINE?
SUBSCRIBE & SAVE 49% Page 62
Two years into World War II and hostilities hadn’t yet cooled between Finland and the Soviet Union. This Finnish soldier is pictured with a captured Soviet Maxim gun and the larger 76mm regimental M1927 gun on the Karelian Isthmus, an area of fierce fighting. The war would rage on until a ceasefire was called under the Moscow Armistice in 1944.
THE AWESOME POWER OF A TESLA COIL

This is the amazing sight of a Tesla coil discharging 12 million volts of electricity. How is physicist Nikola Tesla not getting electrocuted by the 6.7-metre (22-foot) long bolts? He’s actually been superimposed next to his own invention in this double exposure photograph, so he is in fact reading his book in peace, not pioneering a new sport called ‘extreme reading’.

1899
A police officer measures the length of the female bathing fashion in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Swimwear had once covered the whole female figure, but by the time of this photograph, attitudes had begun to change. Swimsuits were now armless one-piece garments, and this new maillot style was a far cry from the long bathing dresses of the 19th century.

1921
The SIS building is situated in the heart of London and houses the British Secret Intelligence Service, or MI6.

Operation Gold was an audacious attempt by the British and the USA to listen in to Soviet communications in Berlin during the height of the Cold War.

The CIA developed a camera for pigeon espionage.

The Art of Espionage

Delve into the dark history of spying and secrecy

During WWII, writer Roald Dahl supplied intelligence from Washington to Canadian spymaster William Stephenson.

Operation Gold was an audacious attempt by the British and the USA to listen in to Soviet communications in Berlin during the height of the Cold War.
Johannes Trithemius was a talented German polymath who released the first book devoted to cryptology.

David Greenglass was just one of the ‘atomic spies’ who worked for the USSR against the USA.

This Victorian-era pocket watch-come-spy camera was auctioned off for £18,000.

Cipher machines were a cornerstone of coding and encryption in the early days of espionage.

Unmanned drones have replaced spy planes as the preferred method of aerial surveillance in modern warfare.

The Glock is a popular pistol with FBI agents and is often accompanied by a silencer for added secrecy.

US pilot Francis Gary Powers stands trial after being shot down while in a U-2 spy plane over Soviet airspace on 1 May 1960.

Sun Tzu’s Art of War was one of the first texts to promote the use of espionage in warfare.

The infamous Stasi were the official state security service in East Germany and imprisoned anyone who conspired against them.

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The Glock is a popular pistol with FBI agents and is often accompanied by a silencer for added secrecy.

Unmanned drones have replaced spy planes as the preferred method of aerial surveillance in modern warfare.
Espionage timeline

The Art of War (and spying)
Famous for his ‘Art of War’ text, much of Sun Tzu’s writing considers the ideas of deception and intelligence gathering. C.500BCE

The ninjas of Sengoku Japan
The elite secret agents of Japan specialise in covert operations using the strategy of Ninjutsu. C.1467-1603

Those who practise Ninjutsu must learn ‘the 18 skills’, one of which is Chōhō - espionage

Espionage in the American Civil War
They weren’t formal intelligence organisations, but both the Union and Confederate sides benefit from covert operations during the war. 1861-65

Abraham Lincoln converses with Officer George McClellan as spies bring back vital information for the Union cause

Espionage in the Western Roman Empire
The emperor sends out trained spies to compile military reports when the Empire’s borders are under attack. 285-476

Aztec Pochtecas
Trained and hired to help with commerce and trade in the Aztec world, Pochtecas have diplomatic immunity. 1232-1521

The birth of worldwide cryptography
Johannes Trithemius writes the first printed book on the study as the ideas of letter changing in espionage goes global. 1518

Queen Elizabeth I’s secret service
Taking over from a Catholic queen, Elizabeth’s spy network helps protect her domestically as well as from the Spanish. 1558-1603

Elizabeth’s spies uncovered many plots against her

Formation of the Federal Bureau of Investigation
Created by Attorney General Charles Bonaparte in 1908, it has helped uncover spy rings and espionage cases ever since. 1908

Members of the Saint Petersburg section of the Okhrana pose for a photo in 1905

The Okhrana
Formed to fight left-wing revolutionaries, the Okhrana ensures that all political terrorism and enemy espionage is stamped out in the Russian Empire. 1880

Espionage in the name of revolution
USA 1775-83
To help defeat the British, George Washington enlisted a number of spies in the creation of the Culper Spy Ring. Benjamin Tallmadge helped create the ring and was also a spy in the field while Nathan Hale, a lieutenant in the Continental Army, undertook missions in British-held Long Island and died as a martyr for the American cause. James Armistead Lafayette was the first African-American spy and helped US forces win the Battle of Yorktown when he posed as a runaway slave while infiltrating a British general’s headquarters.

Betrayal of Joan of Arc
FRANCE 1431
The French victory at the Siege of Orleans in 1429 was a turning point in the Hundred Years’ War. The successful defence of the city was orchestrated by Joan of Arc, the French peasant girl who was quickly reversing her country’s fortunes in the war. Desperate to crush her influence, the English put a high price on her head for her capture. Pierre Cauchon, a French bishop, was influenced by the English and captured Joan while she was in his diocese in 1430. He then conducted her trial in front of a delighted English military.

Joan’s betrayal led to her burning at the stake by the English, who had been on the receiving end of her inspirational leadership.

The original Cold War heats up
AFGHANISTAN (AND OTHER AREAS OF CENTRAL ASIA) 1913-1997
Known as the Cold War of the 19th century, the Great Game was a conflict initiated by the rivalry between the two superpowers of the age, Russia and Britain. To help swing the tide of the conflict, both sides employed spies, with the British utilising men from the Indian Civil Service. Much of the espionage is recounted in the Rudyard Kipling book Kim. Arthur Conan Doyle and Charles Stoddart were two British spies who, when trying to pre-empt Russian moves in Afghanistan, were captured and executed in Bukhara, Uzbekistan.
The first worldwide secret service
AUSTRIA-HUNGARY 1850

Crippled by centuries of war, Austria-Hungary decided to create the first permanent military secret service to aid their forces. The Evidenzbureau was founded in 1850 and its spies were spread around the kingdom with the main priority being the Russian border. The service worked closely with the state police and even had its own cryptography section for deciphering codes known as the Chiffegruppe. The Evidenzbureau also branched out into censorship, counter-intelligence and political policing but became defunct along with the Austro-Hungarian Empire in 1917 as the Triple Alliance slid to defeat in World War I.

Espionage in times of revolution
Spies are used during the Russian Revolution with the most famous being Sidney Reilly, the ‘ace of spies’, who James Bond is based on. 1917

The genius of the Enigma machine
The use of these machines by Germany helps conceal secrets until they are broken, which hastens the demise of the Third Reich. 1933-45

The rumour of a Soviet spy in the US government
Alger Hiss is accused of being a secret communist and a Soviet spy in 1948 and is forced to serve 44 months in jail. 1948

Mata Hari from dancer to double agent
One of the most famous undercover agents of all time, her name has now become a synonym for any seductive female spy. 1916-17

The Dame Blanche network
This underground intelligence group supplies 75 per cent of all the Allied intelligence collected in Belgium and Northern France in World War I. 1916

Virginia Hall: the artificial-legged Gestapo evader
Using the code name ‘Diane’, she is taken from the USA to Brittany to gather information and map drop zones. 1944

The Five Eyes global surveillance group
After World War II, the USA, UK, Canada, Australia and New Zealand combine forces to create an intelligence alliance. 1946

U2 spy plane shot down
In one of the most critical moments of the Cold War, a U2 spy plane piloted by Francis Gary Powers was shot down. He was captured and interrogated. 1 May 1960

Chinese espionage targets the USA
Since 2008, the United States has charged up to 57 Chinese spies for attempting to spy on the country from China. 2008-present

Rise of the Stasi
EAST GERMANY 1950-90

Long seen as a byword for fear and oppression, the Stasi were the feared secret police force of the East German communist state. Under the Stasi, each citizen would be under constant close scrutiny as the reclusive Soviet bloc monitored for any contact with the outside world. The organisation spied on its inhabitants to such an extent that its 100,000 members knew everything right down to personal relationships as it infiltrated daily life right up until its dissolution, along with the rest of East Germany, in 1990.

East German Citizens protesting outside the Stasi building in Berlin. The sign accuses the Stasi of being ‘Nazis in their oppression’. 1990

Philby was awarded the OBE in 1946, but it was annulled when it was discovered he was a spy for the Soviet Union. 1988

MIG spy defects to the USSR
USA 1950

Part of the Cambridge Four - a group of Cambridge University graduates who became spies for the Soviet Union - Kim Philby was also employed as an MIG agent. At the start of the Cold War, he was put in charge of monitoring Soviet espionage, allowing him to sweep the activity of the other members of his spy ring under the carpet. However, in 1961, a KGB agent detected to the West and exposed Philby as a spy. He fled to the USSR, where he remained under virtual house arrest until he died in 1988.

Duquesne Spy Ring
USA 2 January 1942

One of the largest espionage cases in US history, the Duquesne Spy Ring was one of the Nazis’ cleverest plots. Fearful that the USA would enter the war sooner rather than later, a ring of German spies were distributed across the USA to get a little closer to this potential enemy. After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, American intelligence went up a notch, and within six days, all the spies had been captured. Every member of the group either pled guilty or was convicted after trial as German attempts at espionage on the USA broke down.

The most famous of the spies was William Sebold, who was a double agent for both Germany and the USA under the pseudonym ‘Harry Sawyer’
VICTORIAN DETECTIVE’S STUDY
THE REAL SHERLOCK HOLMES OF CRIME-RIDDEN BRITAIN, LATE-19TH CENTURY

He may be fictional, but the Baker Street detective was born from a very real public obsession with a new breed of crime-buster: the private investigator. When the Metropolitan Police Service was established in 1829, there was no such thing as a detective branch; a chain of events in 1842 changed that. In April that year, Daniel Good murdered and dismembered his common-law wife. When a constable was sent to investigate a different disturbance, Good locked him in with the festering carcass and fled. He was on the run for ten days before a former police officer reported his whereabouts. The incident was a serious embarrassment to the police. The following month, a disillusioned teenager called John Francis attempted to shoot the queen. His two attempts failed, but it brought fresh humiliation to an already disgraced police force. It was decided that a new kind of officer was needed – one who didn’t wear uniform and could immerse themselves in the mind of criminals. The solution came in the form of the Detective Department, responsible for investigating murder, fraud and theft as well as suspicious persons. Often donning elaborate disguises, these detectives frequented places notorious for their criminal patrons and employed informers to provide them with inside knowledge. The success of these detectives drastically improved the reputation of the police and the British infatuation with detective policing had begun.

Espionage

Just like Sherlock Holmes, the real detectives of Victorian Britain had their own Moriartys. One such detective was Jerome Caminada of the Manchester City Police force’s detectives division. He was reportedly responsible for the imprisonment of 1,225 criminals and the closure of 400 public houses, so threats on his life were commonplace. He often carried a pistol and was forced to use it on more than one occasion, including in a standoff with career criminal Bob Horridge.

Masters of disguise
Thanks to their positive image in the media, by the 1880s the initial resistance to police officers acting as ‘spies’ by being in plain clothes had disappeared. Detectives were now able to embrace the art of disguise, and one even posed as a statue during the 1862 International Exhibition.

Occupational hazards
Just like Sherlock Holmes, the real detectives of Victorian Britain had their own Moriartys. One such detective was Jerome Caminada of the Manchester City Police force’s detectives division. He was reportedly responsible for the imprisonment of 1,225 criminals and the closure of 400 public houses, so threats on his life were commonplace. He often carried a pistol and was forced to use it on more than one occasion, including in a standoff with career criminal Bob Horridge.
The rise of the detective coincided with the rise of mass communication, when people had the time and ability to read the many books, papers and magazines that were being published in their thousands. As well as novelists taking advantage of the huge public interest in the world of crime and private investigation, detectives themselves began penning their memoirs.

**A handy piece of kit**

Fingerprinting was first used to identify a criminal in 1880, when Dr Henry Faulds, a Scottish surgeon, solved a burglary by analysing a dirty fingerprint left on the wall. He was able to prove that the suspect in custody was not the perpetrator, but rather a later prisoner. Between 1896 and 1897, Henry Edwards developed a system for storing, organising and searching fingerprint records that was practical for police purposes, and fingerprinting soon became a vital part of detective work.

**A pressing case**

The press had an almost obsessive interest in plain-clothes policing, reporting on it regularly and boosting the detective’s public image in return for the provision of compelling news stories. Few occupations at the time relied so heavily on the media for their success.

**Capture the evidence**

To begin with, photography was rarely used for investigative purposes as it was a cumbersome process. In the case of a murder, a camera would be used just once to record the body at the scene. However, as detectives came under more pressure to solve crimes, new innovations like close-up photography were used to reveal hidden details unseen by the naked eye.
5 myths busted

NINJAS
JAPAN'S MYSTERIOUS WARRIORS, OBSCURED BY MYTH AND LEGEND, JAPAN, 15TH-17TH CENTURY

01 NINJAS DRESSED IN BLACK
Ninjas are often portrayed as dressing entirely in black with a hood and mask, but this simply doesn’t make sense. A ninja’s job was to blend in with everyone else, impossible in such a costume. Ninjas would have worn the traditional clothes of the era, which were available in a wide variety of colours from brown and grey to blue and red.

02 They were always assassins
Ninjas were so much more than simply assassins. They fulfilled a variety of roles for many different people. In some instances they were hired as warriors to help storm or defend castles, but more often than not they worked as spies who were sent to obtain enemy secrets rather than to kill them.

03 Throwing stars were used to kill
The shuriken, or throwing stars, are commonly seen in ninja movies and are thrown to kill people from a distance. However, their real purpose was to cause a distraction, and the earliest versions were household items like coins. When shuriken were used as weapons, it was to slash or stab, not to kill.

04 Samurai were their sworn enemy
It is commonly believed that ninjas and samurai were constantly facing off against each other, but this couldn’t be further from the truth. In fact, lots of ninjas were from the samurai warrior class. One of the most famous ninjas, Hattori Hanzo, who helped save the life of Tokugawa Ieyasu, was also a samurai.

05 They were poor peasant farmers
There is a belief that ninjas rose from the lowest ranks of society, but ninja was actually a job title, not a social class. Most ninjas actually came from the samurai or warrior caste and were at least foot soldiers, making them closer to aristocrats than humble peasants who trained in the mountains.
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Espionage is often described as the second oldest profession, and these men and women can lay claim to being some of the greatest spies the world has ever known.

**IAN FLEMING**
**BRITISH 1908-64**
His name was Fleming. Ian Fleming - a former banker, journalist and secret agent. The son of a Conservative MP, Fleming enjoyed a privileged upbringing and the finest education. His flair for linguistics is probably why he was drafted into naval intelligence at the brink of World War II, where he was embroiled in a plot to wash up a dead body on occupied Europe carrying false intelligence about Allied landings. In a case of life imitating art, Fleming wrote his first spy novel, *Casino Royale*, aged 44. But it was his passion for bird watching that inspired the name James Bond, borrowing it from a leading American ornithologist.

**BELLE BOYD**
**AMERICAN 1844-1900**
When a Union soldier burst into her family home, 17-year-old Belle Boyd whipped out a pistol and shot him dead. Acquitted of her crime but put under surveillance, she began a career as a spy for the Confederates during the American Civil War. By flirting with the Union officers that guarded her, she gathered military secrets. She later wrote: “I am indebted for some very remarkable effusions, some withered flowers, and for a great deal of very important information.”

**JAMES ARMISTEAD**
**AMERICAN 1748-1830**
Armistead went from slave to spy as he was granted permission from his master to join the American Revolution. Stationed under Marquis de Lafayette, the commander of the allied French forces, he was employed as a secret agent. The mission: help the US win independence from Great Britain. Posing as a runaway slave, he infiltrated a British general's headquarters where he gathered military intelligence. As he was a double agent, he could move freely between the two camps and managed to stop the British sending 10,000 men to Yorktown, Virginia, enabling the American and French to surprise British forces. This contributed to the British surrender in 1781.

**MATA HARI**
**DUTCH 1876-1917**
Mistress, exotic dancer, spy? Mata Hari ensnared audiences and aristocratic lovers alike with her famous Indian ‘temple dance’. Through her carefully placed drapes, army captain Georges Ladoux could see her European appeal and seized the opportunity to enlist her as an agent. It was World War I and Hari was well placed to glean military information from her conquests. But her foreign affairs with German political and military figures attracted the attention of the French secret police. Suspected as a double agent, her fate was to stand in front of a firing squad at dawn. She refused to wear a blindfold.
MARTHE MCKENNA  
**BELGIAN 1892-1965**  
After German troops burned down her village and her father was arrested for suspected sharpshooting, McKenna (codename Laura) was recruited by British Intelligence in World War I. Using her cover as a nurse, tending to wounded German and Allied soldiers, she reported any suspicious activity to two other female Belgian spies: an elderly grocery seller codenamed Canteen Ma and a letterbox agent with the codename Number 63. Along the way, she destroyed a telephone line, gathered details of a visit by Kaiser Wilhelm II and won the Iron Cross for her medical service. When she was sentenced to death for espionage, it was this Cross that saved her. She served two years in prison before being released in 1918 when the war ended.

CHRISTOPHER MARLOWE  
**BRITISH 1564-93**  
Christopher Marlowe was born the same year as Shakespeare, but their talents as playwrights are where the similarities end. Homosexual, atheist and dabbler in the occult, Marlowe was a rebel for the time. He was also a suspected spy for Queen Elizabeth, after he was almost denied a master's degree in 1587 before the Privy Council intervened, citing his unspecified services to the state. His life of intrigue and danger ended when he was fatally stabbed in a tavern brawl.

FRANCIS WALSINGHAM  
**BRITISH 1532-90**  
Queen Elizabeth I's Protestant faith made her a target for Catholic assassins. For her protection, a secret service – led by her faithful minister and ruthless spymaster Francis Walsingham – worked to uncover plots to put the Catholic Mary Queen of Scots on the throne. Suspecting Mary's involvement, Walsingham used a double agent to intercept her personal letters. Once he had the evidence, Mary's conspirores were hanged, drawn and quartered, and she was put on trial for treason. “Spies are men of doubtful credit,” she argued, but her execution date was set. Walsingham died three years later, deeply in debt; he put a lot of his own money into making his spy networks a global operation.

GIOVANNI CASANOVA  
**ITALIAN 1725-98**  
The original lothario was also a spy. As a young man he had good intentions, attempting to enter priesthood, but having affairs with the nuns instead. Working as a magician, he wound up in prison for witchcraft and escaped across a rooftop, absconding to Paris where he became famous for his exploits. Casanova was allowed to return to Venice on the condition that he spied on the French. No one suspected the conman, poet and legendary ladies’ man.

FREDERICK FORSYTH  
**BRITISH 1938-PRESENT**  
His spy thrillers seem so convincing, and for good reason. Day Of The Jackal author Frederick Forsyth was a Cold War spy for MI6 for more than two decades. The 76-year-old recently revealed that he was recruited while working as a journalist in 1968, reporting on a war in Nigeria. For the whole time, he was so worried about capture that he carried a revolver with a single bullet to kill himself before being tortured to death.

KLAUS FUCHS  
**GERMAN 1911-88**  
Klaus Fuchs was a Cold War spy who spilled nuclear secrets. It was the 1940s and he was a scientist on the Manhattan Project – a top-secret US facility creating the most destructive weapon mankind had ever seen. No one suspected he could be a Nazi spy, as he had fled his country to get away from them. What they didn’t twig was that he left because he was a communist. His exposure triggered the second Red Scare.

“I often had no scruples about deceiving nitwits and scoundrels and fools”  
*Giovanni Casanova*  

**The author told The Sunday Times there was no harm in revealing his past, now there’s no East Germany, no Stasi, no KGB or Soviet Union**

**For the whole time, he was so worried about capture that he carried a revolver with a single bullet to kill himself before being tortured to death.**

© Alamy, Getty Images
01 Undergo CIA training
During the Cold War, huge amounts of money were poured into the CIA and a large portion of this was used in recruiting, training and outfitting spies. You'll have to undergo intensive training that will test and perfect a wide variety of skills, ranging from physical fitness to people skills. Only the most successful recruits will be selected.

02 Create a persona
The life of a spy is a double one. Cold war-era spies are often portrayed as suave James Bond types or coated figures with briefcases, but neither of these stereotypes is true. The most successful double agents are those able to create a believable persona. You want to blend into everyday society, keep your head down and behave like an ordinary employee.
How not to... spy discreetly

It was no great secret that the Soviet Union and the USA were spying on each other during the Cold War, but at least on the surface they wished to maintain an air of non-aggression. This was completely destroyed when, on 1 May 1960, a U2 spy plane was shot down over Soviet airspace. The United States realised what had happened immediately, but, not willing to admit they were spying on the USSR, attempted to cover up the nature of the plane, claiming it to be a NASA weather research plane. President Eisenhower denied all knowledge of it. Khrushchev let the Americans announce this story publicly, and only then did he come forward to inform the world that the pilot was alive and well. The Soviets then produced the plane's intact remains and photos of Russian military bases taken by the aircraft. This was a huge embarrassment for the USA, and dramatically worsened relations with the USSR. After being interrogated by the KGB, the pilot was sentenced to three years in prison and seven years' hard labour.

Smuggle out valuable data

Once you’ve successfully integrated yourself into your new life, it’s time to get to work. The primary purpose of your position is to gather all the information you can about Soviet Russia, and their intentions towards the USA. This can involve stealing documents, setting up bugs or even smuggling out valuable prototypes of military tech.

Decrypt messages

Many messages that are intercepted by the CIA from Soviet Union intelligence agencies require decryption. One of the most successful code-breaking projects was the Venona project, which led to such discoveries as the Cambridge spy ring. Decrypting messages can be a slow process, but the results could change the fate of your nation.

Spread rumours

Rumours are very powerful tools at your disposal, and if you can successfully start one, it could devastate the morale of the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union may have been behind rumours so successful that we still aren’t sure today if they originated there or not. Powerful tools at your disposal are letters, faked news reports and simple word of mouth.

Don’t get caught

This should be your priority in all operations, not only for your own good but also for your country. An agent’s work can involve sabotage, kidnapping or assassination and the penalty for being discovered is long prison sentences or even execution. Oleg Penkovsky, the Russian spy who informed the USA about Soviet missiles in Cuba, was executed by the KGB.

4 FAMOUS... COLD WAR SPIES

JULIUS AND ETHEL ROSENBERG
USA, 1915/1918-53
This husband and wife were American citizens executed for passing information about the atomic bomb to the Soviet Union.

OTTO VON BOLSHWING
EAST PRUSSIA, 1909-82
Previously an SS intelligence agent, von Bolschwing was recruited by the CIA after the war.

ARKADY NIKOLAYEVICH SHEVCHENKO
DENMARK, 1930-98
Shevchenko was the highest-ranking Soviet official to defect to the West.

KIM PHILBY
UK, 1912-98
Philby was a high ranking member of British intelligence who was secretly supplying information to the Soviet Union as part of a spy ring known as the Cambridge Five.

Espionage

How not to... spy discreetly

© Ed Crooks
Bletchley Park was Britain’s best-kept secret. Behind the doors of the Victorian mansion, men and women worked around the clock to crack the communications between Hitler and his generals in World War II. The Germans thought their Enigma cipher was impenetrable, but a team of mathematicians – including the father of computer science, Alan Turing – unravelled the key. The small team of codebreakers grew in numbers, deciphering messages and giving the Allies the advantage, and Bletchley Park was credited with shortening the war. However, it wasn’t until the 1970s that the world discovered what really happened.

GO TO WORK IN SECRET
The codebreakers worked in three shifts so that work could carry on around the clock. One week was 9am to 4pm, the next was midnight until 9am, while the third – and the most dreaded – was 4pm until midnight. Some stayed in dormitories in Bletchley Park, but others lodged with families from the village. Sworn under the Official Secrets Act, they had to dance around questions from their nosy hosts.

GATHER INTELLIGENCE
Beyond the towering walls, barbed wire and naval marines on guard, men and women worked alongside each other without ever knowing what their co-workers did. The clack-clack of the decoding machines was the only sound. Service operators around the country would listen for German messages and send them to Bletchley Park to be broken and translated.

DECIPHER MESSAGES
Messages from Hitler himself were sent to a special department: the Testery. Cryptographers would scribble down coded letters for Wrens to type into a giant Tunny machine. If the information was punched in correctly, the words that came out of the teleprinter were clearly German. However, letters were often missed during interception, and everyone would hold their breath until it started to make sense again.

How do we know this?
After the war, Winston Churchill ordered for the records to be destroyed and the heroes of Bletchley Park were forgotten. Nearly 30 years passed until one former employee wrote a book, exposing Britain’s secret war efforts to the world. No one was more shocked than the codebreakers, who hadn’t dared breathe a word to anyone. Sadly, many of their parents had died without knowing the truth. Since then, many Bletchley Park veterans have publicly spoken about their time there and contributed to books on the topic. One of these is Colossus: The Secrets Of Bletchley Park’s Code-Breaking Computers by B. Jack Copeland, which offers a compelling insight into the determination and indomitable spirit of the codebreakers, keeping their memory alive.
Supervisors would peer over the typists’ shoulders, waiting to take the messages to be analysed by eccentric masterminds, made up of mathematicians, linguists and chess champions. Some had landed the job after solving the Daily Telegraph crossword puzzle in less than 12 minutes.

Once the shift was over, the codebreakers could head to the canteen just outside the gates to refuel and unwind. The food was standard warfare fodder, but the chatter was anything but. Romances blossomed as young men and women were thrown together under such secretive circumstances, and couples strolled around the picturesque grounds of the Buckinghamshire estate.

The codebreakers of Bletchley Park were so cut off from the outside world that the only way they got in touch with reality was by listening to the wireless. For some, this meant receiving the worst kind of news: the death of loved ones fighting in the war. They received comfort from their fellow colleagues, who became incredibly close after eating, sleeping and working under the same roof.

When the next shift wasn’t until 9am the next day, the evening was theirs to enjoy. A grand hall hosted dances, movie nights and gramophone concerts in a bid to keep the codebreakers happy and focused. Conveniently, there was a direct train to London nearby and they would often head into the city for dinner or a show. It was like leading a double life.

Catching the last train back or finishing duty, the codebreakers would collapse into bed and fall into a deep slumber. It was tiring work, weighed down by their state-imposed secret and exhausted from sheer concentration. Towards the end of the war, though, the work become even more demanding and codebreakers who had just drifted off were shaken awake to return to the Testery; keep calm and carry on.

A statue of Alan Turing – the creator of modern computing – resides at Bletchley Park. His contribution helped to turn the tide of the war.
BIBLE

PROVIDING MOTIVATION AND PROVING LOYALTY

Spymaster Francis Walsingham was such a devout Protestant that he chose to leave England during the reign of the Catholic Mary I. He returned in 1568 as secretary of state for Protestant Queen Elizabeth I. A man of God, he would do anything to prevent Catholicism returning to the shores of England.

WARRANT

WRITTEN PROOF OF A TARGET’S CRIMES

Anyone found guilty of plotting against the monarchy would first be given a trial. Essentially a kangaroo court, the conspirator would almost always be found guilty. The punishment was the brutal practice of being hanged, drawn and quartered. More than 100 Catholic priests met their fate in this way.

ELIZABETHAN SPY

ENGLAND, 1558-1603

CODED LETTERS

A SPY WAS NOTHING IF HE COULDN’T BREAK CODES

Tudor intelligence centred around the ability to break codes and ciphers. Plotters against the queen would often send encrypted letters to each other that would use a shuffled version of the alphabet. Elizabethan spies were expected to break it and even write it themselves.

A POCKET FULL OF WAGES

QUALITY WORK PAID WELL

The payment given to a spy varied on how well they did their job. Spying was not an established profession so they would be paid on an ad-hoc basis. Elizabeth I was notoriously tightfisted, meaning many moles were university graduates or even bankrupt ex-prisoners.

LONG-DISTANCE ESPIONAGE

TUDOR SPIES HAD TO TRAVEL FAR AND WIDE TO UNCOVER PLOTS

The two main methods of transport in Tudor England were ships and horse-drawn carriages. If you were a royal spy, it wouldn't be too difficult to commandeering either of these with the queen's approval. The spy network's web was able to grow and prosper with good transport links.

FORGERY PEN

THE EASIEST WAY TO DISCOVER CONSPIRATORS IS TO ASK

Intent on bringing down Mary, Elizabeth's spymaster hired a double agent to stockpile the Queen of Scot's personal letters. The spies intercepted a letter sent to a young Catholic, Anthony Babington, and then forged a new one in her handwriting asking for the potential plotters' identities. These were duly given and the men were imprisoned.
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The small fleet set sail from France on 1 August 1485. Seven days later, the babble of mostly French voices and Scottish accents were heard on Welsh soil as the force made land at Milford Haven. They were soldiers of fortune, 2,000 strong at most, employed to fulfil a simple mission – seize the crown of England for their figurehead. This ‘man who would be king’ was Henry Tudor. His father, Edmund Tudor, had died before he was born. However, his mother, Margaret Beaufort, was very much alive. Both a widow and a mother before her 14th birthday, she later came to see that if events and circumstances turned sufficiently in her only son’s favour, England’s throne could be his. On 7 August, on the Pembrokeshire coast, he was closer than he’d ever been.

The royal blood in his veins was thin - his mother was a descendant of John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster and his mistress, Katherine Swynford, the pair later marrying to legitimise the line - but it was there. The Milford Haven landing site was near to where Henry was born, at Pembroke Castle, in 1457. King Henry VI had been the reigning monarch then. Edmund, Henry Tudor’s father, and his uncle, Jasper, shared the same mother as the king, who looked favourably upon the offspring of her second marriage. Treating his half-brothers well was one of Henry VI’s few virtues. Hindered by bouts of mental illness, his reign was ill starred. During it, he weakly allowed courtiers, especially the Beaufort family, and his wife, Margaret of Anjou, to grab power and wealth. The king’s administration was increasingly incompetent and corrupt. The Hundred Years’ War with France, so ably prosecuted by his father, Henry V, had been lost in 1453, leaving the economy badly damaged. The House of Lancaster, from which Henry VI hailed, was hugely discredited, especially among many of the unfavoured nobility.

When mental illness incapacitated the king, a power struggle began for control of the country. The queen, supported by the Duke of Somerset – Margaret Beaufort’s uncle - pushed to be made regent, but it was Richard, Duke of York, one of the country’s richest landowners, who was made protector of the realm. As a direct descendant of Edward III, York had almost as strong a claim to the throne as the present Lancastrian king, yet at that time he remained loyal. As protector, he imprisoned Somerset and attempted to curb the corruption within the administration. However, when King Henry VI recovered his faculties, York was dismissed and Somerset released to resume his role at court.

Sidelined, watching his decisions as protector reversed, and vulnerable to plots against him by Somerset, York acted. Together with the Earls of Warwick and Salisbury, they raised an army of some 3,000 men. This force intercepted Henry and his supporters, travelling from London to Leicester, at St Albans. The Yorkist demands for Somerset to be arrested were rejected, and a brief battle through the streets of the town began. Somerset was killed, as were other Lancastrian nobles, while the king was injured by an arrow. It was 1455, and the Wars of the Roses had begun.

They might have ended there and then had York taken the crown, but, perhaps proving his loyalty, he didn’t. Instead he reaffirmed Henry’s right to the throne and once again acted as protector when the king suffered further mental problems. An uneasy peace prevailed until the queen and allies gathered an army of Lancastrian
The Battle of Bosworth

The fighting was brutal and close-quartered, halberd and spike hacking and jabbing.

Sympathisers to challenge the Yorkists again, forcing York and Salisbury to flee the country. The victory was followed by the attainings of leading York nobles, which meant they were to lose their titles and lands to the crown. Ruined if they let it stand, the Yorkists rallied and fought back, with the Earl of Warwick, who had been garrisoned in Calais, returning to England to bolster their cause. Warwick won a key battle at Northampton, defeated the king, and York at last formally laid claim to the throne via Parliament’s Act of Accord. This allowed Henry VI to remain king, but on his death, succession would pass to York’s family.

Yet before 1460 was out, York was dead, killed at the Battle of Wakefield. His title passed to his eldest son, Edward. Seemingly in the ascendancy, the queen’s Lancastrian army marched on London, but the city sealed its gates to her, instead proclaiming the new Duke of York as monarch. Weeks later, in March 1461, he won a crucial conflict at Towton Moor. It was the bloodiest battle of the Wars; it left the Lancastrian army in tatters, while the victor returned to London as King Edward IV.

Aged four at the time, Henry Tudor was in the care of his uncle Jasper at Pembroke Castle in Wales. Jasper was a loyal Lancastrian, fighting in vain to keep the castle out of Yorkist hands. It fell to William Herbert, and young Henry found himself in Herbert’s household in 1469. That year, however, the Wars resumed following a fall out between Edward IV and Warwick. The latter switched sides to orchestrate a coup against the king, who fled to the continent. Henry VI, a prisoner in the Tower of London for five years, was released and restored to the throne. In this brief Lancastrian revival, Herbert was executed after the Battle of Edgecote Moor, and Henry Tudor went back to his uncle.

Events turned swiftly again when Edward returned to England. Gathering followers, he faced Warwick at the Battle of Barnet, and triumphed. Warwick, ‘the kingmaker’, was killed. The same fate befell Henry VI’s heir, the 17-year-old Edward Prince of Wales, at the next battle, at Tewkesbury. Shortly after, the recaptured Henry VI died, possibly of ill health, but most likely murder. The Yorkist grip on the crown was now vice like. Any Lancastrian noble or supporter was at risk. Jasper Tudor, one of the most prominent still alive, fled to Brittany in 1471, taking Henry with him.

Partly under protection, partly under house arrest, they lived in exile at the behest of Duke Francis II, who viewed the pair as useful pawns in his dispute with King Louis XI of France, and France’s dispute with England. In 1476, Edward IV seemed to have persuaded Francis to hand the pair back for a payment, but a letter from Margaret Beaufort alerted Jasper and Henry of the plan. Henry feigned illness before they escaped to sanctuary.

Henry’s mother had married twice more by then. Despite her Lancastrian roots, her marriage to Henry Stafford was harmonious, even though he fought for the Yorkists and died from wounds helping Edward IV triumph at Barnet. Her next marriage, in 1472, seems a calculated alliance. Her new husband was Thomas Lord Stanley, a wealthy landowner from the north west of England, and
The Wars of the Roses

Wakefield 30 December 1460
05 From relative safety in Sandal Castle, Richard inexplicably leaves to attack a besieging Lancastrian force. It’s far stronger in number than thought. Richard is slain, other Yorkist nobles captured and unhospitably beheaded. Richard’s son assumes his title.

First St Albans 22 May 1455
01 Opening exchanges of the conflict. Uninvited to a king’s council meeting, which potentially threatens him, Richard of York and allies intercept royal forces at St Albans. In town street fighting, the king is defeated. Key Lancastrians, including Somerset, are killed.

Blore Heath 23 September 1459
02 Hostilities resume after an uneasy peace. The queen despatches a large Lancastrian force under command of Lord Audley to intercept troops of Richard’s ally Salisbury. Despite weight of numbers, the Royalists are routed.

Ludford Bridge 12 October 1459
03 Combined Yorkist forces march to Worcester but encounter a huge Royalist army led by Henry VI himself. To attack is treason. Many Yorkists defect, others retreat and scatter. Richard flees to Ireland; his leading allies to France.

Northampton 10 July 1460
04 Facing ruin, Richard’s allies invade from exile with a strong force. They engage the king’s army at Northampton. Royalist Lord Grey defects to the Yorkists. The king is captured, his queen flees to Wales to recruit more men.

Wakefield

Blore Heath

Ludford Bridge

Northampton

The corrupt court of weak Henry VI, dominated by his favourite the Duke of Somerset and the queen, led disaffected nobles to fight for change.
prominent in Edward IV's court. Given access to it by her marriage, Margaret soon impressed the queen, Elizabeth Woodville, becoming godmother to one of her daughters. No doubt aided by her husband's influence with the king, she sought to end her son's exile and secure his future. If Henry could return to England and regain his title - Earl of Richmond - he might become a husband to Edward's eldest daughter, Princess Elizabeth of York, potentially neutralising some of the bad blood between the two Houses.

Before any of that happened, though, Edward IV unexpectedly died. A commanding figure, tall, good looking and fond of high living, the excesses of his life simply took their toll. Edward's heir, the 12-year-old Prince of Wales, was set for the throne of his life simply took their toll. Edward's eldest daughter, Princess Elizabeth of York, potentially neutralising some of the bad blood between the two Houses.

The Battle of Bosworth

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A Medieval Knight

With battles decided by fierce close-quarters fighting, it was important for a knight to have protection from head to toe

Helmet

Enclosing the wearer's entire head for maximum protection, Medieval helmets often had hinged visors to allow a clear field of vision when necessary.

Gorget

This steel collar protected the front and back of the neck and covered the neck opening in a complete cuirass. It also covered part of the clavicles and sternum.

Heavy Armour

The whole suit could have 250 pieces and weigh up to 50 kilograms. The knight could be so heavy that he could barely move, and if he fell from his horse, he would become defenceless.

Sword

With a straight double-edged steel blade, a knight's sword could be between 2.5 and 2.8 feet long and weigh between 1.3 and 1.5 kilograms.

Cuisses

These metal plates protected the thighs, and greaves covered the lower parts of the leg and calves.
Their battle was at Bosworth and the crown of England, and despite long and short reigns, they can be compared.

Who Was The Better King?

Henry VII

Richard III

BATTLEFIELD PERFORMANCE

A hardened combat veteran of the Wars of the Roses and in tackling Scottish unrest, Richard’s bold but doomed charge at the inexperienced Henry at Bosworth almost carried the day.

FOREIGN POLICY

While Richard tried and failed to negotiate Henry’s return from foreign exile, when king, Henry forged strong treaty alliances abroad that avoided costly wars and helped the economy.

WELFARE & REFORMS

Richard was an able administrator with reformist intentions, though he later had to backtrack for financial reasons. Henry was quite conservative, maintaining much of the previous regime’s administration methods.

PUBLIC PERCEPTION

Neither was much loved. Henry, while respected, was equally feared. Disquiet about the fate of the princes and stealing the throne meant Richard was loathed beyond his northern powerbase.

DYNASTIC RECORD

Attempting to maintain the Plantagenet line, Richard became its last ruler. In contrast, perhaps owing more to luck than judgement, Henry established the next dynasty.

King’s daughter, Princess Elizabeth. Further, Lady Margaret contacted her son in Brittany, urging him to raise an invasion force. Henry Tudor did so, sailing in early November 1483, but by then Richard III had crushed the poorly co-ordinated rebellion and the captured Buckingham had been beheaded.

Thomas Lord Stanley convinced the king he had no knowledge of his wife’s part in the rebellion. Her life was spared, though she was formally placed in her husband’s custody, with her titles and possessions passing into his control. It was an error by Richard III, for by the time of Henry Tudor’s second invasion in 1485, the Stanley family had been communicating with him for some time.

From the Pembrokeshire coast, Tudor’s force marched through Wales into England. It gained support along the way, from Welsh troops gathered by his uncle Jasper to important disaffected noble families that were perhaps less for him and more anti the usurper king. However, Richard III had strong backing too, from the armies of the Duke of Norfolk, the Earl of Northumberland and, he’d have thought, Thomas Lord Stanley. Yet if Thomas and his younger brother Sir William were going to stay loyal, the king might have expected their armies to intercept Tudor’s march. Instead, they played a waiting game. Summoned by the king to his Nottingham base, Thomas Lord Stanley pleaded illness and remained absent, even though his son, Lord Strange, was with the king’s court and effectively a hostage against his father’s defection.
**Richard's Wounds**

Researchers identified at least 11 injuries on the recently discovered king's skeleton. Some may have been inflicted after death to abuse the body.

1. **The fatal blows**
   At the base of the skull, a section of bone has been sliced off by a large, sharp-bladed weapon, like a halberd. There is a second deep penetration hole, perhaps sword created. Either injury would have been fatal.

2. **Frontal attack**
   There is a cut mark on the lower jaw, likely a knife injury. This, together with both fatal blows, suggests that Richard had lost his helmet in the battle.

3. **Head injuries**
   - **A.** The top rear of the skull has been clipped several times by a sharp-bladed weapon, such as a sword. Painful blows, though not fatal.
   - **B.** A small penetration wound on the skull top, consistent with that of a dagger, was forceful enough to split the bone, pushing small pieces inside.
   - **C.** The rectangular hole in the right cheek is again similar to a dagger injury.

4. **Misshapen spine**
   The pronounced curved backbone shows Richard had scoliosis. Likely genetic, this deformity wasn't present at birth but developed in adolescence. It would have led to one shoulder being slightly higher than the other, rather than the hunchback of Shakespeare's creation.

5. **Side stabbing**
   A cut on the tenth rib indicates a stab wound from a knife or dagger. As armour would have protected this area during battle, this may have been a post-death injury.

6. **Insult injury**
   Again likely inflicted upon Richard's armour-removed corpse, a stabbing wound from behind by a dagger or sword pierced the right buttock and jabbed straight through the body. It was almost certainly done as a form of humiliation.

7. **Despatched without dignity**
   The way the hands were crossed in the grave suggests they were bound together. The grave itself, hastily dug, was too short for Richard's body. There was no evidence of a coffin, shroud or clothing.

8. **Foot note**
   Richard's skeleton was found almost complete, though the feet were missing. This is not believed to be sinister - they may have been lost during earth movements when a Victorian outhouse was built near to the grave.
The two armies converged in the East Midlands, while the troops of the Stanleys’ shadowed both but stayed uncommitted. On the morning of 22 August 1485, the inevitable battle began. A definitive narrative of what happened cannot be agreed as contemporary accounts are sparse. Even the battlefield location, long believed to have been at Ambion Hill near Market Bosworth, is now thought to be a mile away at Fenn Lane Farm.

Yet it is likely that Tudor’s force, by then some 5,000 strong, had the seasoned field commander the Earl of Oxford in the vanguard, with support on the flanks, and Henry Tudor himself leading a small mounted force to the rear. Facing them were the Duke of Norfolk’s men front and centre, with artillery on both flanks, and the king’s horsemen in behind. Northumberland’s army sat deeper, covering either flank. Richard III had more than twice the men at Tudor’s disposal, yet to one side, still uncommitted, were 6,000 Stanley men.

After cannon fire and a rain of arrows, both vanguards slammed into each other. The fighting was brutal and close-quartered, halberd and spike hacking and jabbing against metal-plate armour. The king’s superiority of numbers counted for little as Northumberland’s men stayed back, never landing a blow. Oxford’s men held up well, and Norfolk was killed, but Tudor, seeking support, rode towards the Stanley army. Richard III saw both mounted knights swoop to engage Tudor’s vanguard, and spike hacking and jabbing against metal-plate armour. The king’s superiority of numbers counted for little as Northumberland’s men stayed back, never landing a blow. Oxford’s men held up well, and Norfolk was killed, but Tudor, seeking support, rode towards the Stanley army. Richard III saw both mounted knights swoop to engage Tudor’s vanguard, and spike hacking and jabbing against metal-plate armour.

The king was cut down. Richard III was getting close, close enough for Tudor to see the circlet crown around his helmet, when suddenly the king’s flank came under attack. Sir William Stanley, at last acting, betrayed the king by throwing his lot in with Tudor. It turned the tide. The king, some say yelling “treason, treason!”, was separated from his men and unseated. He fought on bravely but was enveloped by Welsh foot soldiers. As he was hacked down and killed, legend has it that the circlet flew from his helmet and was retrieved by Thomas Lord Stanley, who placed it on his stepson’s head to proclaim him King Henry VII. Their leader dead, many Yorkist soldiers surrendered, bringing the battle to an end after barely two hours. It wasn’t quite the last in the Wars of the Roses, but it proved the decisive one.

Given the turbulent history of recent previous monarchs, the fact that the new king’s claim to the throne was tenuous and that he had spent more time on the run and in exile than in England, the prospects for Henry VII actually lasting long on the throne were not good. Nevertheless, he set about the task. His swift marriage to Princess Elizabeth, uniting the Houses of Lancaster and York through the Tudor name, helped appease Yorkist hostility. Additionally, while Henry VII was ruthless with the leading players who had supported Richard, he left most of the middle-ranking Yorkists alone. This meant the administration of the country continued smoothly. The new king also benefited from the fact that the country was heartily sick of civil strife. When several pretenders to his position emerged, he was able to snuff out rebellions adroitly because the impostors were unable to gather sufficient support. Importantly, Henry VII built strong alliances with other countries, particularly France and Spain. This negated the need for war-funding taxes, allowing the nation’s finances to recover.

In 1509, after almost 24 years on the throne, Henry VII died in his bed. Lady Margaret Beaufort, who saw little of her son when he was young but did plenty to see him to the throne, lay him to rest, outruling him by two months. Although Arthur the heir died young, the ‘spare’ took the crown as Henry VIII. The Tudor dynasty had begun.
A Shaky Claim

Descendants of Edward III fought over England's crown. As kings and heirs battled and died, those with more tenuous claims to the throne saw opportunity.
Edward III
Plantagenet
1312-77

Joan of Kent
Plantagenet (Wife 2)

Blanche Plantagenet
Duke of Lancaster 1340-99

John of Gaunt
Katherine Swynford (Wife 3)

Henry IV
Bolingbroke 1367-1413

Mary de Bohun 1368-94

Elizabeth of Lancaster 1363-1426

Richard, Duke of York
1411-60

Henry V of Lancaster
1386-1422

Catherine of Valois 1401-37

Elizabeth Woodville
1437-92

Sir Owen Tudor 1400-61

Margaret of Anjou 1430-82

Henry VI of Lancaster 1421-71
Died in captivity

Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick
1437-81

Edward of York defeats the Lancastrians

Elizabeth of York
1466-1503

The houses of York and Lancaster are joined in marriage

Henry VI of Lancaster 1421-71
Died in captivity

The protector of the realm during Henry VI’s bouts of mental illness, he was sidelined once the king regained his faculties. He swore loyalty to the king but demanded that Somerset face charges, and when that failed, he took up arms. Seeking for his family to be heirs to Henry VI, he was killed at the Battle of Wakefield.

Margaret Beaufort
1443/hyphen.uc1509

Margaret Beaufort
Died in captivity

Richard, Duke of York

Edward Prince of Wales 1453-71

Henry VIII Tudor
1491-1547

Henry VII Tudor 1457-1509

Henry VIII Tudor
Catherine of Aragon 1485-1536

Edward Prince of Wales
1453-71

Henry VII’s son and natural heir faced never being king because of the Act of Accord instigated by Richard, Duke of York. This made Richard’s family the heirs to the throne. With his mother, the prince sought to fight for his birthright, but he was inexperienced and fell at Tewkesbury. His death brought the Lancastrian succession to an end.

Elizabeth of York
1466-1503

Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick

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Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick

Elizabeth Woodville

Margaret Beaufort
Died in captivity

Henry VIII Tudor
Catherine of Aragon 1485-1536

Richard, Duke of York

Edward Prince of Wales 1453-71

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In 1952, Einstein was asked to accept the position of second president of Israel. Aged 73, he declined the offer.

In 1905, Albert Einstein published four papers that revolutionised our understanding of the universe. He won a Nobel Prize for his contribution and came up with the most famous scientific equation: E=mc² - as recognisable as his shock of white hair and bushy 'tache. At the time of these breakthroughs, however - a year that would become known as his 'annus mirabilis', or 'miraculous year' - he was a dark-haired, doe-eyed 26-year-old. Handsome and known for being a bit of a ladies’ man, he didn’t even have a PhD. In fact, he was working in a Swiss patent office at the time, a role significantly less prestigious than his desired doctorate.

In hindsight, though, the position afforded him time to theorise on the properties of light. Einstein worked best as an independent thinker, which is one of the reasons for his troubled education. Likening his teachers to “drill sergeants,” he earned a reputation as a mischief-maker. When his father asked why, the teacher said he “sits at the back and smiles.” There was no way his parents could have fathomed what a genius he would become. He was slow to develop, beginning to speak some time after the age of two. “My parents were so worried,” he later recalled, “that they consulted a doctor.”

Even when he did start to communicate, he would whisper the words to himself first, perfecting the sentence until it made sense to say out loud. The family maid called him ‘der Depperte’ - the dopey one - and they thought he’d never be a model student. Einstein believed this allowed him to ponder things that others took for granted. When his father handed him a magnetic compass to relieve his boredom, the five-year-old was fascinated by the invisible forces acting upon the needle, turning it this way and that. Something so intriguing had never been discussed in school, and Einstein quickly realised he would have to work things out for himself. “I have no special talents,” he later declared, “I am only passionately curious.”

As a youngster, he enjoyed puzzles and building houses of cards with the help of his adoring little sister, Maja. Before she was born, his mother said

**Albert Einstein**

This iconic scientist changed our view of the world and his name has become a byword for genius, but who was the man behind the moustache?

Written by Jodie Tyley

In 1952, Einstein was asked to accept the position of second president of Israel. Aged 73, he declined the offer.
he would soon have a wonderful toy to play with. “Where are the wheels?” he famously exclaimed when he was presented with a chubby newborn. The pair would become incredibly close, though, despite his childhood tantrums when he would hurl objects at her head. “It takes a sound skull to be the sister of an intellectual,” she later joked.

The turning point for Einstein came during his teenage years, while a medical student lodged with his family. Max Talmey introduced him to algebra and gave him books on geometry and the natural sciences. One particularly influential volume by Aaron Bernstein described a current of electricity racing down a telegraph wire and asked the reader to imagine running alongside it, which led Einstein to ponder the nature of light. If you could catch up to a beam of light, he thought, it would appear frozen, but no one had observed this before.

Famous for thought experiments such as this, he preferred to deliberate in pictures rather than words. In 1904, a 25-year-old Einstein would walk the streets of Bern, Switzerland, with his baby son, Hans-Albert, in a stroller. It was nine years since he had read Bernstein’s book, but the puzzle stayed with him. Brow furrowed and determination etched into his features, he would pause to take out the notepad that lay next to the tiny infant and scribble down a series of mathematical symbols. The New York Times would later sum this event up best, commenting that: “Out of those symbols came the most explosive ideas in the age-old strivings of man to fathom the mystery of the universe.”

At the end of the 19th century, light was assumed to be a wave travelling through a mysterious thing called aether. Einstein removed aether from the equation entirely with his general theory of relativity, creating a fundamental link between space and time. He explained that time passes at different rates depending on how fast an object is moving; the faster it travels, the slower time progresses. The equation $E=mc^2$ represents the relationship between mass (m) and energy (E). Essentially, Einstein found that when an object approached the speed of light (c), the mass of the object increased. Or, as he put it most simply: “When you are courting a nice girl, an hour seems like a second. When you sit on a red-hot cinder, a second seems like an hour. That’s relativity.”

When considering how he happened to be the one to come up with such a ground-breaking theory, he explained that he owed it to those early years that caused his parents such concern. “The ordinary adult never bothers his head about the problems of space and time. These are things he has thought of as a child. But I developed so slowly that I began to wonder about space and time only when I was already grown up. Consequently, I probed more deeply into the problem than an ordinary child would have.”

When the news of Einstein’s findings broke, the media turned him into a global sensation. It was the new theory that everyone was talking about and no one understood, and arrived in a period of great social change. World War I had ended the year before, there were new technologies being developed and the roles of the sexes were being rebalanced. Professionally, things had never been better for the scientist, but behind closed doors, his personal life was crumbling.

Einstein’s 11-year marriage to Mileva Marić was falling apart and he issued her an ultimatum – if

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**Enemy**

**Philipp Lenard**

Nazi scientist Lenard was Hitler’s principal physicist and an anti-Semite, while Einstein was Germany’s most celebrated Jew. Consumed by hatred for his rival, Lenard tried to discredit him at every turn. He ultimately forced Einstein out of the country.
they were to remain together for the children, she would have to agree to a list of conditions. From making sure his laundry was kept in good order to leaving his study immediately if he requested it, they were pragmatic and cold demands. Months later, Marić returned to Zurich with their two sons. Hans-Albert would grow up and reflect that “probably the only project he ever gave up on was me.” His father did see that they were looked after financially, giving his Nobel Prize winnings to the family.

Following the divorce, Einstein married his cousin and long-time mistress Elsa Löwenthal, but it would seem his only true love was science. Between the mid-1920s and his emigration to the USA in 1933, there were half a dozen women in his life. The fact that Einstein’s move to the USA coincided with Hitler’s rise to power is no coincidence. A hateful anti-Semitic campaign was set up by the Nazis to discredit the Jewish scientist and his theories. They painted him as a fraud, suggesting he plagiarised his work, and these ill-grounded accusations have plagued accounts of his life ever since.

But just as Nazi Germany was suspicious of Einstein, he was deeply wary of them. Believing they were developing an atomic bomb, he wrote to President Roosevelt to warn of a growing nuclear threat. He encouraged the government to research nuclear chain reactions using uranium in response to German advances in the field. Despite this, Einstein was a life-long pacifist and opposed the war. It was the reason he left Germany aged 16. The law required every German male to serve in the military, so his only option was to leave before his 17th birthday or be declared a deserter. After a careful escape, he joined his parents in Italy and renounced his German citizenship.

With the weight of his reputation, it can be said that this letter to Roosevelt was the catalyst for the USAs’ development of the atomic bomb. The Manhattan Project was begun, but Einstein never worked directly on it. Nevertheless, his famous equation inadvertently provided the starting point and he would be doomed to forever explain his role in this pivotal moment in history. Adamant that all he had done was write a letter, Einstein came to regret even sealing the envelope.

In an interview with Newsweek magazine, he said: “Had I known that the Germans would not succeed in developing an atomic bomb, I would have done nothing.” When the first atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, Japan, this action and its aftermath led to him undertaking anti-nuclear campaigns and lectures for the rest of his life. When asked what weapons World War III would be fought with, he famously replied that he did not know, “but World War IV will be fought with sticks and stones.”

Einstein’s later years saw him pioneer numerous key theories including wormholes, multi-dimensional models and the possibility of time travel, as well as discovering his unified field theory - an all-embracing theory that would unify the forces of the universe and physics into one framework. It was never completed, however, as Einstein died of an aortic aneurism in 1955. He had refused surgery, saying: “I have done my share, it is time to go. I will do it elegantly.” Sadly, as his nurse didn’t speak German, we’ll never know what his last words were. They are lost to space and time, which we understand a lot more thanks to him.
Death in Ancient Egypt

The Ancient Egyptians worshipped more than 1,400 gods and goddesses.
Beneath the burning hot sands of the Eastern Desert lie the remains of one of the greatest civilisations the world has ever seen. The Ancient Egyptians flourished along the banks of the River Nile between the third and first millennia BCE, with an empire that stretched as far north as modern-day Syria and as far south as Nubia in northern Sudan.

These people led rich lives. The fertile soil gave rise to a thriving agricultural society that developed some of the most advanced farming techniques of the ancient world. Their building projects were unparalleled, and they forever altered the Egyptian skyline with their towering temples and imposing pyramids. Their armies were undefeated, their science was revolutionary, and their art provided a blueprint for the Renaissance masters.

But it was in death that the Egyptians believed they truly lived. Their faith in the afterlife was unshakeable, but entry was not guaranteed. The spirit of the dead would first have to navigate through a perilous underworld, battling gods, monsters and gatekeepers until it reached the Hall of Judgement. Here, it would be brought before 42 divine judges, to whom it would have to prove its worthiness for the afterlife. If successful, the spirit could then proceed to the Weighing of the Heart ceremony. Its heart, which contained a record of all its good and bad deeds, was weighed against the feather of the goddess Ma’at. If the heart was heavier, it was thrown to the crocodile-headed demoness Ammut and the soul was cast into the darkness. If the scales balanced, the soul could pass on to the Field of Rushes - a heavenly reflection of life on Earth.

With so much to compete with in death, the Ancient Egyptians spent their lives preparing for it. As well as trying to avoid sin, funerary items were purchased, coffins were commissioned and tombs were built, many of which were more elaborate than their own homes. But the preparation of the body after death itself may be at the centre of our enduring fascination with death in Ancient Egypt.

It was home to a thriving civilisation, but it was in the land beyond the grave that the Egyptians believed they truly came to life

Written by Alicea Francis
The gory embalmment process was perfected until it was able to produce mummies that would last for eternity.

Eternal life wasn't just about preserving the spirit. The deceased's body also had to preserved, as the Ancient Egyptians believed the soul (ba) and life force (ka) had to return to it regularly to survive. To prevent the body decaying, it underwent a lengthy and gruesome mummification process. Developed and refined over millennia, it allowed Ancient Egypt to produce some of the best-preserved mummies in the world, and we can now gaze upon the faces of men, women and children almost exactly as they were more than 2,000 years ago.

The first mummies in Egypt date back to approximately 3500 BCE. Before that time, all citizens regardless of social status were buried in desert graves, which allowed natural preservation to occur through dehydration. An artificial method known as embalmment was then developed that would ensure even better preservation and allow bodies to be kept within tombs. The most complicated mummification process was developed in about 1550 BCE, and is considered the best method of preservation. With this method, the internal organs were removed, the flesh dehydrated, and then the body was wrapped in linen strips. This was an expensive process that took about 70 days to complete, so only the very rich could afford it. Working class people were treated with an alternative method of preservation that involved liquidising the internal organs with cedar tree oil, draining them out through the rectum and then placing the body in a salty substance called natron to dehydrate it.

Embalming took place in the Red Land, a desert region away from the heavily populated areas and with easy access to the Nile. Upon death, the body would be carried to the Ibu, or the 'Place of Purification', where it would be washed in river water. It was then taken to the per-nefer, or 'house of mummification', which was an open tent to allow for ventilation. Here it was laid out on a table ready to be dissected by the embalmers. These men were skilled artisans who had a deep knowledge of anatomy and a steady hand. They were also often priests, as performing religious rites over the deceased was an equally important part of the embalming process. The most experienced priest carried out the major parts of mummification, like the wrapping of the body, and wore a jackal mask as he did so. This symbolised the presence of Anubis, god of embalming and the afterlife.

### Mummification

1. **Purify the body**
   Before the embalming process can begin, the body is washed in water from the Nile and palm wine.

2. **Remove the internal organs**
   A small incision is made in the left side of the body and the liver, lungs, intestines and stomach are removed. They are then washed and packed in natron before being placed in canopic jars. The heart is left in the body as it is believed to be the centre of intelligence, and will be needed in the afterlife.

3. **Discard the brain**
   A rod is inserted through the nostril into the skull and used to break apart the brain so that it can drain out of the nose. The liquid is then thrown away as it is not thought to be useful.

4. **Leave to dry**
   The body is stuffed and covered with natron, a type of salt, which will absorb any moisture. It is then left for 40 days to dry out.

5. **Stuff the body**
   Once again, it is washed in water from the Nile and covered with oils to help the skin stay elastic. The natron is scooped out and the body is then stuffed with sawdust and linen to make it look lifelike.
6. Wrap in linen
First, the head and neck are wrapped in strips of linen, then the fingers and toes. The arms and legs are wrapped separately before being tied together. Liquid resin is used as glue.

7. Add amulets
Charms called amulets are placed between the mummy’s layers of linen, but what did each one do?

- **The Heart**
  This protected the heart, believed to be the most important organ. The underside was often inscribed with spells from the Book of the Dead to help the spirit navigate the underworld.

- **The Knot of Isis**
  Knots were regularly used as amulets as it was believed they bound and released magic. They were said to protect the wearer from harm, and were placed on the neck.

- **The Djed**
  This represented the backbone of Osiris, the god of the afterlife. It was wrapped close to the spine and enabled the mummy to sit up in the afterlife, ensuring its resurrection.

- **The Headrest**
  According to the Book of the Dead, if placed under the neck, this amulet provided physical comfort for the deceased and also prevented them from being decapitated.

- **The Papyrus Sceptre**
  The papyrus plant represented new life and resurrection. It was believed to give the dead the energy and vitality to survive the terrifying ordeals of the underworld.

- **The Two Fingers**
  Placed near to the incision through which the organs were removed, these may have been intended to ‘hold’ the incision sealed and prevent evil spirits from entering the body.

- **The Serpent**
  This was placed anywhere on the body and prevented the spirit from being bitten by snakes in the underworld.

- **The Frog**
  This was believed to contain the powers of Heqet, the frog-headed goddess of life and fertility. When placed on the mummy, it would allow it to be brought back to life.

8. Say a prayer
A priest reads spells out loud while the body is being wrapped in order to ward off evil spirits. He will often wear a mask of Anubis – the god associated with the embalming process and the afterlife.

**Animal mummies**
The Ancient Egyptians believed that many of their gods and goddesses could live on Earth in animal form. The god Amun could take the form of a goose or ram, the god Thoth could be an ibis or baboon, and the goddess Bastet took the form of a cat. These animals were treated like deities, and when they died, they were mummi/f_i  ed just like humans. In the Late Period (661/hyphen.uc332 BCE), animal mummies were produced commercially and sold for use as offerings. X-rays reveal that the animals were clearly bred for the purpose and some were deliberately killed. Many of the mummies that survive today contain only tiny fragments of bone, or are entirely empty, suggesting that demand for these sacred items must have outstripped supply.

When a pet cat died, the household would shave off their eyebrows to signify their loss.
Death in Ancient Egypt

Burial

The Ancient Egyptians’ resting place could be nothing short of what they experienced in life. Long before their deaths, wealthy Egyptians built luxurious tombs for themselves and filled them with objects that would protect and assist them in the afterlife. This ranged from simple items like bowls, combs and clothing to chariots, furniture, weapons and jewellery. The treasures found in Ancient Egyptian tombs are among some of the most valuable in the world, and show that status symbols were considered just as important for the afterlife as they had been on Earth. Food was also stored in the tomb and left as offerings after the tomb had been sealed in order to sustain the life force (ka) - one of the five elements that made up the human soul. Even depictions of food painted onto the walls of the tomb were believed to provide nourishment for the dead.

The day of burial was when the deceased moved from the world of the living to the world of the dead. Both poor and rich were given a ceremony of some kind, as it was considered essential in order for the spirit to pass to the afterlife. Wealthy and royal Egyptians received an elaborate funeral, during which a procession of mourners and dancers accompanied the coffin to a tomb, which was either below ground or within a mastaba or pyramid. Also present were two women called kites whose job was to mourn overtly and inspire others to do the same. As in other ancient cultures, remembrance of the dead ensured their survival in the afterlife, and a great showing of grief at a funeral was thought to help the deceased's cause in the Hall of Judgement. On arrival at the burial site, a priest performed a ritual known as the Opening of the Mouth ceremony. The mummy was propped upright while spells were uttered and a ceremonial blade pressed against the mouth (to allow it to breathe, eat and drink), eyes (to allow it to see) and limbs (to allow it to move). Food and gifts that would assist the spirit in the afterlife were then offered and a funerary banquet was held. Finally, the coffin was carried into the tomb, where royal mummies would be placed within a stone sarcophagus. This was intended to provide an extra layer of protection against grave robbers, who were rife in the Nile valley. Spells and prayers were recited, and then the tomb sealed, never to be opened again... or so they hoped.
1. Objects for the afterlife

Once the body had been wrapped in layers of linen, items like jewellery and daggers were placed on the mummy for use in the afterlife. A scarab amulet was hung from the neck to help guide the soul during the Weighing of the Heart ceremony.

2. Cartonnage case

After mumification, a cartonnage case was created. This was formed around a straw and mud core to which plaster and linen bandages soaked in resin or animal glue was applied, similar to papier mâché. Once it set, the case was split open, the stuffing removed and the body placed inside.

3. Decoration

Another cartonnage case was added and then a layer of plaster or gesso - made from resin and chalk powder – was painted over the top. Natural dyes like indigo, madder and ochre were used to create intricate designs on the cartonnage, particularly depictions of the god of the underworld, Osiris.

4. Wooden coffin

Finally, the body was placed in an anthropoid wooden coffin. Those of royalty may have been painted with gold leaf and decorated with precious jewels. A death mask made of cartonnage, wood or precious metals was placed on the head of the deceased to ensure that its soul could recognise its body.

The many layers of a mummy

Mummification was not the final step in the quest for eternal life. The body would be placed in several cases and coffins - sometimes up to eight - before eventually being laid to rest.
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WOMEN who CHANGED the WORLD

The monarchs, minds and military leaders who defined history.

EDITOR’S PICK

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ABACUS 3RD MILLENNIUM BCE
The first computers were mechanical devices used to aid calculation. Among the earliest was the abacus, which can be traced as far back as the Sumerian civilisation around 2500 BCE. The abacus was a counting frame with beads or counters sliding along wires or grooves in order to keep a tally. They were used in the Chinese, Egyptian and Roman empires, while the Aztecs and Incas independently developed their own versions. Abacuses were a familiar sight in British classrooms before the invention of the electronic calculator and they continue to be used in many parts of the world.

ANTIKYTHERA MECHANISM 2ND CENTURY BCE
Ancient computers could be surprisingly complex and some of their designs were not bettered until the 19th century. The Antikythera Mechanism was a clockwork machine about the size of a shoebox with at least 30 interlocking bronze gears. It was used by the Ancient Greeks to predict astronomical events and to mark the four-year Olympiad cycles separating Olympic Games, although its exact operation is still debated by scientists and historians. The Antikythera Mechanism was lost in a shipwreck in the Aegean Sea until it was recovered by archaeologists in 1900, more than 2,000 years later.

THOMSON’S TIDE-PREDICTING MACHINE 1873
Analogue computers used physical properties to model the problem being solved. The tide-predicting machine invented by Sir William Thomson in 1872 used a system of pulleys and wires to calculate future tide levels, plotting a curve on a piece of paper to show the changing height of the water. Thomson’s first machine could incorporate eight different constituents affecting the calculation, later versions increased this to 24. The tide-predicting machine could predict a year’s tides at a particular location in four hours, a great help to sailors navigating coastal waters and tidal rivers.

COLOSSUS 1943
During World War II, the British military needed to crack the codes used by the Germans. A mechanical computer, the Bombe, was famously used to fathom the Enigma code, but the more complicated Lorenz cipher used to encrypt high-level communications required the increased speed of an electronic computer. Engineers at Bletchley Park were instructed to design a machine to do the job. The result was Colossus, the first programmable electronic computer. It was built using vacuum tubes and instructions were fed into the computer using paper tape. Its success in breaking the codes helped to bring the war to a close in 1945.

MANCHESTER SMALL-SCALE EXPERIMENTAL MACHINE 1948
The Silicon Valley of the 1940s was Manchester — after World War II, the University of Manchester was a hotbed of computer research. Their Small-Scale Experimental Machine (SSEM), nicknamed the Baby, was completed in 1948. It was fully electronic, but unlike predecessors like Colossus, it could run a program stored in its internal memory. Although the SSEM was relatively simple and primitive, designed only to test the cathode ray tubes used as computer memory, it contained all the elements required by modern computers. The Baby grew up into the Ferranti Mark I, the first computer sold commercially.
NEXT COMPUTER 1988
The NeXT Computer, nicknamed the Cube for its distinctive shape, was not a commercial success, despite combining powerful hardware with well-developed software. However, the NeXT Computer has a place in computing history because Tim Berners-Lee used a Cube at the CERN laboratory in Switzerland to develop the information management system we now know as the World Wide Web. When NeXT was bought by Apple in 1997, the NeXTSTEP operating system became the base for Apple’s OS X, still used in all iMac computers.

ZX SPECTRUM 1982
A success story for quirky inventor Clive Sinclair, the Spectrum - a small black box with strange rubber keys - introduced many Britons to home computing. It sold more than 5 million units worldwide and was particularly popular among children looking to use it for recreation. The Spectrum had primitive sound capabilities, a small palette of 15 colours and programs had to be loaded manually using audio cassette tapes, but that did not stop games like Manic Miner and Chuckie Egg becoming smash hits, fondly remembered by those who grew up in the 1980s.

SONY PLAYSTATION 1994
Computers were originally functional devices, but home computers led to a rise in them being used for leisure. Gaming consoles were specifically designed for recreational use and aimed at children. The PlayStation, launched by Sony in 1994, was intended to take a slice of the market dominated by Nintendo and Sega, and did so with spectacular results. The original PlayStation outsold both its rivals, with worldwide sales topping 100 million over its ten years of life.

APPLE IPAD 2010
Computers have drastically shrunk in size as electronic circuits have been miniaturised. It means that computers are no longer tied to a desktop and have become portable - first as laptops, then tablets. Tablet computers include a touchscreen display, circuitry and battery in one case. They were largely used as personal organisers for businessmen until Apple’s iPad shifted tablets into the mainstream, with sales topping 250 million. Their convenience and portability means that tablet use continues to grow, although they may soon be superseded by smartphones.
The Harlem Hellfighters were born in 1915 as the 15th New York National Guard Infantry Regiment, but it was not the United States of America's first 'segregated' unit. In the civil war, the Union Club of New York had sponsored the all-black 20th US Colored Infantry, and after 1866, the famous ‘Buffalo Soldiers’ of the 10th US Colored Infantry fought the Native Americans of the Southwest. They also took part in the invasion of Cuba in 1898.

1915 was also the year that a German U-boat sunk the Lusitania. President Woodrow Wilson’s administration knew that American entry into World War I was only a matter of time; both the army and the National Guard required immediate expansion. Black Americans were potential recruits who wanted to demonstrate their value: eager enough to train with brooms in store fronts. Many white politicians trusted they would succeed, and so military necessity met emancipatory ideals, creating political will.

Secretary of War Newton D Baker engaged Emmett J Scott, an adviser to the visionary of black liberation Booker T Washington, as an adviser to himself, and President Wilson accepted an offer from the Central Committee of Negro College Men to set up a training camp for black officers. Meanwhile, supported by the Republican governor of New York State, the 15th New York National Guard began to recruit black soldiers and a mixture of black and white officers.

In May 1917, Wilson’s administration passed the Selective Service Act to draft a civilian army. The 15th were absorbed into the federal army as the 369th Infantry Regiment and began training for the trenches of France – first in Camp Whitman, New York State, and then at Camp Wadsworth in Spartanburg, South Carolina; they were in the South now. In Spartanburg, shopkeepers refused to serve them, even though they wore the army’s uniform. The 369th’s war nearly started early, when members of the unit almost exchanged fire with irate white troops from Alabama.

By the end of 1917, with their basic training complete, the “Old 15th” joined the 185th Infantry Brigade. Their white colonel, William Hayward, was a member of the Union Club of New York City, who had sponsored the 20th Colored Infantry. Now, the Union Club sponsored a second black regiment as it sailed for France with the American Expeditionary Force. The mostly black 93rd Division disembarked at Brest in December 1917.

The USA carried its race problem to war. White-American soldiers disliked the idea of serving with black Americans. Of the 200,000 blacks who were to serve in the Expeditionary Force, some...
<table>
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<th>YEARS ACTIVE</th>
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<td>NICKNAME</td>
<td>Harlem Hellfighters</td>
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<tr>
<td>MOTTO</td>
<td>Don’t tread on me</td>
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**COAT OF ARMS**
A coiled snake and poplar trees over a red, white and blue shield
150,000 were restricted to dock work and manual labour. At first, the 369th were consigned to latrine digging. They received abuse and violent assaults from white-American soldiers, and their own commanders distrusted them enough to issue a pamphlet, Secret Information Concerning Black American Troops, warning their French hosts that black Americans were racially inferior and prone to raping white women. The AEF’s commander, John ‘Black Jack’ Pershing, decreed that the officers in all-black regiments must be all black or all white, otherwise blacks might give orders to whites. In their first months in France, the 369th’s most important contribution to the war effort came from its marching band, who introduced jazz to audiences of British and French soldiers.

The 369th had to join another country’s forces before getting a taste of combat. The French army, now in its fourth year of fighting, had suffered heavy losses. French soldiers, used to serving with Senegalese and Algerians from France’s African colonies, tended to be less racist. In May 1918, the 369th, having received further training under French officers, and now sporting a motley dress - American uniforms with French helmets, belts and holsters - joined the French 161st Division in its trenches in Flanders.

Almost immediately, the 369th won a reputation for bravery. In the small hours of 15 May 1918, Privates Henry Johnson and Needham Roberts were on guard duty when they found themselves under sniper fire from 50 yards’ range. Johnson had just ordered Roberts to bring up a crate of grenades when a large German patrol, numbering as many as 30 soldiers, attacked their post. As Johnson lobbed grenades, Roberts was badly wounded; able only to sit up, he continued to pass grenades to Johnson.

The Germans rushed their position, and two of them tried to take Roberts prisoner. Johnson tried to load his French rifle with an American clip, jamming it. He whipped out a bolo (a kind of machete from the Philippines) and frantically slashed at his attackers, at times using his bare fists. He held out until reinforcements arrived, then fainted; he had been wounded 21 times. The French government awarded Johnson and Roberts its highest honour, the Croix de Guerre, with a special citation and a golden palm for Johnson. After this, the 369th’s French comrades called them the Men of Bronze, and then the ‘Hell-fighters’.

After six weeks of shelling and skirmishing in the trenches, the 369th went over the top on 15 July 1918 in the Second Battle of the Marne. Germany’s Spring Offensive had failed, and Erich Ludendorff, commander of the German forces, gambled on a second offensive. This soon faltered; by the end of the first day, Allied troops, including those of the US 3rd Division, had launched the first Allied counter-attacks.

Over the following weeks, the 369th, with the battle cry “God damn, let’s go!”, took part in the Allied counter-offensive that broke the deadlock in Flanders and forced the Germans back towards the fortified Hindenburg Line. Losses were heavy. “In the mornings,” Sergeant ‘Spats’ Davis wrote to his brother Arthur in Harlem, “most of the valleys we went through in those days were full of gas and smoke from exploding shells or from the previous day’s bombardment. The sickly sweet odour still smites my nostrils with a little imagination.”

By the first week of August, the men had been under fire for 130 days. 14 were dead and 51 wounded. One officer was dead, after stumbling into a swamp awash with German machine guns, the ‘world-famed rag-time band’ of the 15th Heavy Foot played at his funeral.

On 26 September 1918, the 2,400 men of the 369th were part of the French 4th Army that supported the American drive into the Meuse-Argonne. After a six-hour nocturnal artillery barrage “like the roll of a titanic drum,” two of the 369th’s three battalions went over the top in the first wave of the offensive, flanked by two pairs of French battalions. At a “quiet military walk” they moved uphill towards the German lines through dawn mist, expecting the machine guns to open up at any moment.

**Forgotten Hellfighters**

After France, the Hellfighters faced a long struggle with racism at home.

*Needham Roberts*

**Rank:** Private

**Years of Service:** 1915-19

**Military Honours Received:** Croix de Guerre (France), Purple Heart (USA)

Johnson’s partner on sentry duty, Roberts was badly wounded in the initial German attack. Although unable to move, he continued to fight, by passing grenades to Johnson. He became the second American soldier to receive the prestigious Croix de Guerre.

*Vertner Woodson Tandy*

**Rank:** Lieutenant

**Years of Service:** 1915-19

**Military Honours Received:** None.

In 1907, Tandy became the USA’s first African-American qualified architect. When the ‘Old 15th’ formed, he became the first African American to pass the US Army’s commissioning examinations. After the war, he established a successful architectural business.

*Rafael Hernandez Marin*

**Rank:** Private

**Years of Service:** 1917-18

**Military Honours Received:** None.

In 1917, the musical brothers Rafael and Jesus Hernandez were two of the 16 Puerto Rican musicians recruited by James Reese Europe, the leader of the Hellfighters’ regimental band, the Orchestra Europe. After the war, Rafael became a hit songwriter.

In 2015, President Barack Obama bestows the Medal of Honor to Henry Johnson. Accepting on his behalf is Command Sergeant Major Louis Wilson of the New York National Guard.
As the 3rd Battalion pushed into the town, fighting under heavy shell fire, its commander was killed. A mile from Séchault, the 2nd Battalion came ahead of the ridge across a flat, oak-forested plain and the railway junction at Challerange still lay objective, the “weird and eerie town” of Séchault slopes below Bellevue Ridge. The Hellfighters’ destroyed by machine-gun fire as it climbed the following night, half-drowned and unconscious. In an effort to stay awake, he was retrieved the hand and found a flask of coffee, which he drank arm, grabbed the dead poilu’s pack with his left trying to help him, but a sniper’s bullet “blew out his face.” The corpse fell onto Pippin, pinning him in the mud. Pippin, unable to use his right arm, grabbed the dead poilu’s pack with his left hand and found a flask of coffee, which he drank in an effort to stay awake. He was retrieved the following night, half-drowned and unconscious.

That same night, the 2nd Battalion was destroyed by machine-gun fire as it climbed the slopes below Bellevue Ridge. The Hellfighters’ objective, the “weird and eerie town” of Séchault and the railway junction at Challerange still lay ahead of the ridge across a flat, oak-forested plain. A mile from Séchault, the 2nd Battalion came under heavy shell fire, its commander was killed. As the 3rd Battalion pushed into the town, fighting house by house with bayonets and grenades, the 2nd Battalion and fresh troops from the 1st Battalion outflanked the retreating defenders. American casualties were higher than among the more experienced French. As Colonel Hayward observed, this was the first time that the Hellfighters had fought “a war of movement.” More than half of the 2nd Battalion were now casualties. Only 100 men and three officers were unharmed. One officer came through with only two of his men still in action. The rest of the battalion were “simply shell-shocked, gassed, sunk to the verge of delirium.” The 1st and 3rd Battalion coalesced to form a single ragged battalion. To maintain morale, Matt Bullock, in peacetime a football coach at the University of Massachusetts, sprinted up and down the line under fire, delivering cigarettes and chewing tobacco.

Now, after three days of intense and bloody fighting, the Hellfighters had to cross a mile of woods, scarred with shell craters and German trenches, to take the farmhouse that dominated the railway junction at Challerange. They advanced at dawn. Immediately, their right flank came under fire. The woods bristled with machine guns and snipers. Lieutenant Robb was wounded for the fourth time in 24 hours. Weak from loss of blood, he shepherded his men to safety when they came under fire and retrieved a wounded officer. He became the only man of the 369th to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor.

A French unit relieved the Hellfighters the following night. Over eight days of fighting, nine officers and 135 enlisted men had been killed. Nearly 1,000 had been wounded by gunshots, gas, artillery concussions and shell shock. Some 600 had retreated while lightly wounded; half of those men had then been rallied into a provisional battalion and led back into the battle. Less than a third of the regiment had survived without injury. The Hellfighters had been under fire for a total of 191 days, longer than any other American unit in the war. They had not lost a single prisoner.

The 369th were sent to the mountains of the Vosges, a quiet part of the line, to recover and absorb reinforcements. On 17 November 1918, less than a week after the Armistice, their French commanders accorded them the honour of becoming the first American troops to reach to the German frontier on the bank of the Rhine. On 26 November, Colonel Hayward climbed down from his horse’s saddle, scooped up a handful of river water and drank it before his troops’ eyes.

In December 1918, the French Army bestowed the Croix de Guerre collectively upon the regiment for its bravery at Séchault. Their American
African Americans in the Military

From the runaway slaves who fought for Britain in the American Revolution to the black northerners who fought for the Union for less pay than their white peers, to the Hellfighters and the present day, black Americans have fought for their freedom.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR

Shot by British soldiers in 1770, Crispus Attucks, the son of a freed slave, becomes the American Revolution's first casualty.

- In 1775, George Washington ordered recruiters not to recruit blacks.
- Still, 9,000 black Americans fought for the Patriots.
- In Virginia, Lord Dunmore formed an all-black Ethiopian Regiment.
- About 100,000 blacks died during the Revolutionary War.
- After the war, the British resettled 3,000 ‘Black Loyalists’ in Nova Scotia, Canada.

1ST RHODE ISLAND REGIMENT

First all-black military unit in the USA.

1792

MILITIA ACTS OF 1792

Prohibit African Americans from carrying arms in the militias of the recently founded United States of America.

1775-1783

THE WAR OF 1812

Although the US Navy refuses to use black sailors, a manpower shortage means that one in eight crewmen are black.

- On some US privateers, half the crew were black.
- When the Royal Navy docked at Chesapeake in 1813, thousands of slaves escaped by rowing out to the fleet.
- The British formed three companies of all-black Colonial Marines.

1792

Gabriel Hall, one of the slaves who escaped.

1812

THE CIVIL WAR

Black soldiers are able to enlist after the Second Confiscation and Militia Act (1862) but they are not as well paid as white soldiers.

- At first, black Union soldiers received $10 a month, minus a $3 deduction for uniforms. White Union soldiers received $13 a month, without deductions.
- The Union army recruited a total of 175 US Colored Troops regiments.
- 18 African Americans won the Congressional Medal of Honor.
- By 1865, one in ten Union soldiers was black.

1861-65

WILLIAM HARVEY CARNEY

Rank: Sergeant

First African American to be granted the Medal of Honor.

When the colour guard is killed during the assault on Fort Wagner, Carney, though wounded, carries the flag forward.

1863
The Harlem Hellfighters were the first black American regiment to go into battle in World War I.

CATHAY WILLIAMS

RANK: PRIVATE

Williams disguises herself as a man and becomes the first African-American woman to enlist in the United States Army.

BUFFALO SOLDIERS

The Negro Cavalry are not allowed to forget their origins. Their Indian adversaries called them 'Buffalo Soldiers', because their hair resembled a buffaloes.

Executive Order 9981

Signed by President Harry Truman, this order bans segregation and discrimination in the US armed forces.

DORIS MILLER

FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN TO RECEIVE THE NAVY CROSS

Miller is awarded the Navy Cross for repeated acts of bravery under fire at Pearl Harbor. He would be killed in 1943 at the Battle of Makin Island.

President Barack Obama became the first African-American commander in chief of the US Armed Forces.

BLACKS ARE 17 PER CENT OF THE US POPULATION, BUT ONLY 10 PER CENT OF MARINE CORPS SOLDIERS

22 PER CENT OF THE BLACKS IN THE US ARMY ARE COMBAT TROOPS.

TODAY, FIVE BLACK MEMBERS OF THE US ARMED FORCES HAVE RISEN TO THE RANK OF FOUR-STAR GENERAL; IN 2014, MICHELLE HOWARD BECAME THE FIRST BLACK WOMAN TO DO SO.

10 PER CENT OF ARMY OFFICERS ARE BLACK, AND 5-7 PER CENT OF NAVY AND AIR FORCE OFFICERS.
a disability payment. He allowed his image to be used to promote the sale of Liberty Bond stamps: “Henry Johnson licked a dozen Germans. How many have you licked?”, they said.

Johnson tried to return to his pre-war job as a railway porter at Albany, NY, but he found that his wounds made the work impossible. He began to drink heavily. Penniless and sick, he died in 1929, a few months after he was nominated as one of the USA’s five greatest heroes in the war by Theodore Roosevelt, a veteran of the Expeditionary Force who had also received the Croix de Guerre. The US Army continued to use Johnson’s image in recruitment campaigns until 1976.

Today, after serving in World War II as an artillery unit based in Hawaii, the 369th continues as the 369th Sustainment Brigade. The Hellfighters have received the acknowledgement that they did not receive in their lifetimes. In 1994, the Hellfighters’ Armory in Harlem was added to the National Register of Historic Places. In 2003, a four-mile stretch of Harlem River Drive was renamed Harlem Hellfighters Drive. Three years later, in 2006, the City of New York erected a black granite memorial to the Hellfighters, identical to the existing memorial in France, in Harlem.

Nor has Henry Johnson been forgotten. In 1996, he received a posthumous Purple Heart. The city of Albany has named a street, a monument and a school after him, and erected a bust in bronze: a fitting, and overdue memorial to one of the bravest of the Men of Bronze.
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Your community, your University
The common perception of England is as one of the strongest sea-faring nations in history. In the Tudor era, that couldn't be further from the truth. Spanish ships dominate the sea, and England has no more than a fledgling navy. Many sailors remain within sight of the coast and are hesitant to venture out into the open ocean. Stronger nations boast advanced navigational equipment and skills, and are plundering far-off lands. England has to catch up. A life at sea offers sailors a chance at fame and fortune, as well as the thrill of adventure, but doesn't come without risk. Conditions on Tudor ships are cramped, smelly and dangerous, and voyages can take years to return, if they do at all. Much of a sailor's fate is down to chance, but there are steps you can take to increase your chances of survival.

**Dos & Don'ts**

- **Follow rules.** Punishments are very harsh for lawbreakers, including keelhauling - being dragged beneath the ship.
- **Try and eat some fruit and vegetables.** This will provide you with the essential vitamin C able to keep scurvy at bay. Some captains actually worked this out before it was scientifically discovered.
- **Enjoy your free time.** Sailors play games such as backgammon, dice games and even entertain each other with musical instruments such as tabor pipes.
- **Look after your belongings.** In such cramped conditions it's easy for items to go missing. Many sailors mark their property with their initials or some kind of graffiti to identify it.
- **Fall overboard.** Surprisingly, not many sailors can swim, and there is superstition around saving anyone who falls in.
- **Be afraid of animals.** Not only do ships carry livestock on board for food, but most are also infested with rats and mice.
- **Expect a good night's sleep.** Hammocks will not be introduced in English ships until 1596.
- **Make long-term plans.** The life expectancy of sailors is desperately low. It seems that luck plays as equal a part in a sailor's chances of survival as skill.
**WHO TO AVOID**

**Pirates**
One of the biggest threats in the Tudor era is being attacked by pirates. Exploration is a dangerous business, and a ship laden with valuable cargo is a very appealing prospect to buccaneers. Pirates are not always lawless vagabonds: privateers, essentially pirates authorised by their nation to attack enemy ships are also a major threat. Pirates do not usually kill an enemy crew, but you really don't want to lose all that valuable loot. The best way to keep your profits to yourself is to travel with plenty of firepower, a full crew and, if you're able to, as a convoy rather than a single ship.

**Extra tip:** The ship's surgeon could be your best friend or worst enemy: he is well equipped to remove foreign objects but has basically no weapons against infectious diseases.

**Hunting**
Because of the lack of fresh food, sailors are eager to catch and eat whatever fresh meat they can get their hands on. This includes, but is not limited to, whales, seals, penguins, turtles and sea birds.

**Physical strength**
Working on a Tudor ship is not for the weak willed. It involves backbreaking physical jobs day in, day out. Sailors are required to pump the seawater out, scrub the decks, and raise and lower the sails.

---

**WHO TO BEFRIEND**

**The cook**
One of the biggest killers on board Tudor boats is starvation and disease due to lack of a balanced diet. Although fresh food is initially taken on board, this quickly runs out and sailors have to make do with salted fish and meat and hard baked biscuits, which often the maggots get to before the sailors. Although befriending the ship's cook won't help you fight off scurvy - a condition caused by lack of vitamin C - it certainly can't hurt to win the favour of the person in charge of handing out meals.

**Extra tip:** The ship's surgeon could be your best friend or worst enemy: he is well equipped to remove foreign objects but has basically no weapons against infectious diseases.

**Helpful Skills**
Mastering these key skills is vital to your survival out on the perilous ocean.

**Navigation**
English sailors are actually rather behind the times with their navigation skills. Those who make an effort to use equipment that calculates longitude and measure the Sun and stars more often than not return from their voyages.

**Did You Know?**
Tudor laws are harsh. For example, a murderer will be strapped to his victim and tossed overboard.

**Figure 03**
A surgeon tending to a patient.

**Figure 04**
A pirate with a sword.

**Figure 05**
A sundial and other navigational equipment.

**Figure 06**
A ship under attack.

**Figure 07**
A sailor working on the deck of a ship.
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** Calls will cost 7p per minute plus your telephone company’s access charge.
Landing craft failure
With the Germans already alerted, the landing craft carrying troops ashore were put straight into the line of fire. With next to no protection from destroyers, their effectiveness was nullified. 33 landing craft were lost in total, and in the future the vessels would be better armoured and better co-ordinated.

Bravery of the Canadian Royal Engineers
The Churchill tanks struggled throughout the whole operation, so the Canadian Royal Engineers were sent in to bail them out. Frantically trying to get the tanks in working order, the brave men became an easy target for the German MG 34s, and of the 314 who came ashore, 189 were killed.

Tough terrain
Unlike D-Day two years later, Dieppe was a complete operational failure. The sheer cliff faces were an ideal spot for German bunkers and a nightmare for invaders. Once landed, the Allied troops were in disarray due to poor leadership and scrambled communications - a deadly combination.
The resounding success of D-Day in the summer of 1944 took years of meticulous planning but also a fair amount of trial and error. Dieppe was one of those operations that didn’t go to plan for the Allies. The port, on France's western coast, was a key area of German operation and the raid would test just how tough Hitler's Fortress Europe really was. Additionally, with the Red Army struggling in the face of the Wehrmacht onslaught on the Eastern Front, Stalin urged for some assistance from the west. If successful, Operation Jubilee would send shockwaves throughout the Third Reich.

In the early hours of 18 August 1942, the Allied coalition force of British, Canadian, US and French troops set off across the Channel to attack Dieppe head on. The assault would be a combination of land, sea and air attacks, and would include the first American troops of the war to fight in Europe. Unknown to the 252 Allied ships, over in Dieppe the German forces were already on high alert after learning of an increased naval presence on England's south coast. They had received a tip off from French double agents; the element of surprise had been lost.

The task force was split into three with landings at Puys to the north and Pourville to the south as well as Dieppe itself. Upon arrival, the Allied troops found themselves faced with huge cliffs, a natural barrier for the German defences. Fighting bravely, they laid siege to the German artillery positions but were unable to establish a beachhead as they became pinned down on the shoreline. Fortunes varied, with the Canadians on Blue beach making next to no progress and Red, White and Green beaches faring just as badly. The only true successes were at Bruneval, where the Goebbels Battery was taken out.

With news filtering through to command that the assault was faltering, the armoured divisions were sent in. The Churchill tanks were initially accompanied by destroyers, but they were forced to withdraw after shoreline artillery began to destroy the vessels.

As the tanks burst onto the beaches, it was almost immediately obvious that they weren't up to the task. They were ill prepared to traverse the tough French shingle and almost immediately became sitting ducks for the German Panzerschrecks. The ones that did stay mobile were battered by the strong and committed Wehrmacht resistance. Despite the best efforts of the Canadian Royal Engineers, the Churchill tank attack was a complete failure. The land assault was let down by a lack of support from the air. The RAF were supposed to achieve complete air control but were defeated by the Luftwaffe as they lost 106 aircraft, the most on a single day in the entire war. The Allied commanders were watching on from the destroyer HMS Calpe, and due to poor communication links, were unable to get a proper sense of the carnage that was unfolding. It was only at 9am that they called off the massacre. 4,834 men had been killed out of a 6,086-strong force, and all the equipment that was landed on the coast was lost to the Germans. Lessons were learned from Dieppe, but it would be another two years before the Allies would return to the beaches of France in these numbers.
**Plan of attack**
The Allies color code the beaches into four angles of attack. Blue is to the north and consists entirely of the Royal Regiment of Canada. Red and White beaches are located in the center and are the main area of assault with the Royal Marine commandos and other regiments all advancing here. Last up is Green beach, where the Cameron Highlanders of Canada would make their mark.

**Wehrmacht alerted**
After hearing the carnage coming from out at sea, the German troops assemble and man their positions. MG 34 crosshairs now look west, braced and ready for the upcoming attack.

**Arrival at Dieppe**
After a brief and unexpected skirmish against the Kriegsmarine in the Channel, 252 Allied ships assemble on the coast. Minesweepers are the first to emerge out of the darkness at 3am with destroyers and troop transports arriving shortly after. The Allies land on the beaches, but as they begin to lay siege to the defences, German gunfire pins them down, blunting the attack as soon as it starts.

**Send in the tanks**
With the infantry struggling to make an impact, armoured backup enters the fray. The 14th Tank Battalion leads the way with Churchill tanks at their disposal. Unfortunately for Allied command, this decision is a disaster and the tanks soon become sitting ducks after getting stuck in the tough beach shingle.

**Attack on three fronts**
As well as the main task force in the centre, units are sent to attack the Germans at Blue and Green beaches in the north and south respectively. The attacks are a near disaster with very little ground made for the amount of lives lost. At Puys in the north in particular, the combination of strong sea-wall defences and steep cliffs prove to be the Allies’ undoing.
FIELD MARSHAL GERD VON RUNDSTEDT
LEADER
Also a veteran of the Great War, Rundstedt had already served on both the Western and Eastern fronts in World War II.
**Strengths**
Rundstedt had already invaded France once and wasn’t going to let go of it easily.

**Weakness**
The best Wehrmacht divisions were fighting on the Eastern Front.

THE ATLANTIC WALL
UNIT
The newly created defences of Fortress Europe were designed especially with raids like the one on Dieppe in mind.
**Strengths**
Strong and large fortifications with well-protected gun emplacements.

**Weakness**
Allied forces could outflank the battlements if the operation was executed correctly.

MG 34
KEY WEAPON
The workhorse of the Wehrmacht infantry, the MG 34 was a devastating rapid-fire weapon.
**Strengths**
High rate of fire and ideally suited to the gun emplacements.

**Weakness**
Dated and in need of a replacement. Beginning to be phased out by the MG 42.
The Hunt for Billy the Kid

It's the iconic Wild West story and thus, in the 150 years since its making, it has become fraught with embellishment and myth. What was the real history of the hunt that made the legendary lawman Pat Garrett?

Written by Ben Biggs

By the late 19th century, cartographers had mapped much of the world, and the globe, almost as we know it today, was a well-established fact. To the east, the Victorian Empire had peaked despite being ousted from its interests in the New World colonies a century earlier, and the decades that followed Independence Day had seen a fledgling United States simmer with civil war and lawlessness. In the wake of the British, the new American government had made vast territorial gains, picking up the entire Louisiana region – a huge swathe of grasslands over a million square kilometres – from France's Napoleon Bonaparte.

In the wake of the British, the new American States simmer with civil war and lawlessness. Independence Day had seen a fledgling United States almost as we know it today, was a well-mapped much of the world, and the globe, was a well-established fact. To the east, the Victorian Empire had peaked despite being ousted from its interests in the New World colonies a century earlier, and the decades that followed Independence Day had seen a fledgling United States simmer with civil war and lawlessness. In the wake of the British, the new American government had made vast territorial gains, picking up the entire Louisiana region – a huge swathe of grasslands over a million square kilometres – from France's Napoleon Bonaparte.

The boundary of this new nation had spilled westward too rapidly for any population to fill, let alone for the lawmakers of the White House to effectively control. The West was true frontier territory, its people as feral and keen as its unrelenting climate, no place for the timid or fragile. This crucible forged two characters, the outlaw Billy the Kid and sheriff Patrick Floyd Garrett; their independent life stories alone have resonated through generations, but it is Pat's pursuit and the ultimate death of the Kid that has defined them both.

Hollywood has traditionally presented an extremely romanticised notion of this era, so while the stereotypes of sheriff, outlaw, saloon owner, settler, Mexican, cowboy and their ilk can usually be taken with a mere pinch of salt, the black and white morality of the Silver Screen is laughably far from the truth. There was often little to separate lawman from lawless but a small steel star, so we're going to rub away the sepia and journey to New Mexico in late 1880, where Pat Garrett has just been appointed the sheriff of Lincoln County.

Garrett was an imposing six feet three inches of lean gunman and a known deadeye shot. Coupled with his imposing figure and reputation, he made...
The Hunt for Billy the Kid
The Hunt for Billy the Kid

a first-class choice for a visiting detective in the employ of the Treasury Department, Azariah Wild, to help track down the source of $30,000 worth of counterfeit greenbacks that were circulating the county. Garrett himself employed another man – Barney Mason – to bait the two suspected of distributing this currency. ranch owner Dan Dedrick and another, WH West, who had made himself and their intentions clear in a letter that Mason had intercepted. Those intentions were that they would launder the money by buying cattle in Mexico as fast as they could with an assistant, who would unwittingly take the hit in the event that their ruse was discovered. Mason was to be the fall guy. Now that they had the advantage, Garrett instructed Mason to travel to the White Oaks ranch and play along with their nefarious plans.

In the brisk New Mexico winter, Mason rode out to Dedrick’s. There, he ran into three gunslingers on the run from the authorities: Dave Rudabaugh, who had killed a Las Vegas jailer during a breakout; Billy Wilson, another murderer yet to be caught; and the last was none other than Billy the Kid – the unlawful killer who had busted himself out of jail once already, made a living by cattle rustling and gambling, surrounded himself with like-minded outlaws and whose reputation was on the cusp of snowballing towards near mythological status. The attitude of the era was such that a lawman and a wanted man could be trading campfire stories one day, then bullets the next. The Kid and Garrett (who ran his own saloon) were once thought to have gambled together, and Mason was also known to these three - he was, in fact, on friendly terms with them. Thus, both parties made their pleasantries then entered a game of high-stakes mind games, whereby the Kid attempted to ferret out the true nature of Mason’s visit (suspecting he had come to ascertain his location and then report to the sheriff) while Mason threw the Kid a red herring, stating that he was there to take in some horses. The Kid didn’t buy this ruse. Smelling a rat, he met with Dedrick and his fellow outlaws with the intention of killing Mason, but Dedrick feared the repercussions would ruin his illicit plans, so the Kid relaxed his proverbial itchy trigger finger.

A local posse on the hunt for Billy had been raised and the town of White Oaks was agitated with the news that the outlaw was in the area. The heat was too much for Mason to follow through with his orders without raising suspicion, so he lay low for a few days before returning to report at Garrett’s place in Roswell. Shortly after, Garrett received a letter from Roswell Prison's...
Captain Lea, detailing the criminal activities of the Kid and his companions in the area. Garrett was commissioned as a United States marshal and given a warrant for the arrest of Henry McCarty, aka William H Bonney, aka Billy the Kid, on the charge of murder. The hunt was on. The Kid's days were numbered and on 27 November 1880, the curtain was lifted on one of history's most famous Wild West dramas.

The new marshal already had a reputation and might have put the fear of God into the common criminal, but he was no fool. The Kid was by now a true desperado, one who had cut his teeth in the revenge killings of the Lincoln County War, and he was more likely to go out in a blaze of glory than he was to lay down his arms and come quietly. Garrett had raised a posse of about a dozen men from the citizens of Roswell and made his way to Fort Sumner to pick up the outlaws' trail, which would lead them to his suspected hideout at Los Portales. The many miles of desert scrub and overgrown track were neither an easy nor uneventful ride, and saw a Kid associate named Tom Foliard flee the posse in a hail of bullets. When the 'hideout' at Los Portales - a hole in a cliff face with a fresh water spring – turned up nothing more than a few head of cattle, the posse fed and watered themselves before returning to Fort Sumner, where Garrett dismissed them. It was not the showdown he had hoped for, but Garrett wasn't the quitting kind.

The Kid is thought to have killed his first victim a few months before his 18th birthday.
Over the next few days, Garrett, accompanied by Mason, encountered Sheriff Romero leading a posse of swaggering Mexicans to Puerto de Luna, shot and wounded a known felon named Mariano Leiva, talked his way out of Romero and his posse’s misguided attempts to arrest him for this shooting and then learned of another party led by an agent for the Panhandle stockmen the Kid had rustled cattle from - who was also on the trail of the Kid. Steel nerves, a steady hand, sharp wit and no short measure of luck had eventually seen Garrett true once again.

Garrett met with Panhandle agent Frank Stewart at Las Vegas, the former Spanish colonial town of New Mexico and not the bright-light city-to-be more than 1,000 kilometres to the west. They left on 14 December to catch up with Stewart’s party and broke the news to them; some baulked at the idea of an encounter with the Kid and his gang, but Stewart did not reproach any man who had reservations. “Do as you please boys, but there is no time to talk,” he told them. “Those who are going with me, get ready at once. I want no man who hesitates.” In the end, Stewart, Mason and Garrett added a further six men to their cause.

Ahead of the party, Garrett had sent a spy, a trustworthy man named Jose Roibal, who rode tirelessly to Fort Sumner to sniff out the Kid. Roibal performed his duty in a suitably subtle fashion and returned to meet Garrett with the news that the outlaw he sought was certainly at Fort Sumner, that he was on the lookout for Garrett and Mason, and that he was prepared to ambush them. The Kid had no idea that Garrett had company with him.

Following this, the posse made their way to an old hospital building on the eastern side of the town to await the return of the outlaws. The Kid arrived sooner than expected. A light snow carpeted the ground so that, despite the low light of the evening, it was still bright outside. Nevertheless, Garrett and company were able to position themselves around the building to their advantage. Outlaws Foliard and Pickett rode up front and were first to feel the sting of the posse’s six-shooters, though whose bullets killed Foliard that day remains unknown. Garrett himself missed Pickett, who wheeled around and made for their ranch retreat along with the Kid, Bowldre, Wilson and Ruddbaugh – the stagecoach robber and a particularly unsavoury character who the Kid admitted to being the only man he feared.

The marshal’s posse regrouped and made preparations for the chase. There were just five
Garrett signalled to the posse, who peppered the Kid. Knowing the Kid would not give up easily, wearing the characteristic Stetson of Billy the Kid, the posse spread out along the perimeter to play the waiting game in the darkness. In the half-light, he appeared to be a few hours before dawn that they made this short meal that had just cost them their freedom. An eager foursome exited the house to collect the handkerchief out of a window in surrender. An idea struck Garrett. Having rode through the bitter cold, his men were likewise famished, so he sent for some provisions from Wilcox's ranch; a few hours later, a fire had been built. The sweet scent of roasting meat further weakened the outlaws' resolve until Rudabaugh dangled a filthy handkerchief out of a window in surrender. An eager foursome exited the house to collect the meal that had just cost them their freedom.

Garrett now had his man, but the Kid was as slippery as an eel. They survived a lynch mob at Las Vegas before the Kid was tried at Mesilla for the murder of Andrew 'Buckshot' Roberts. He was acquitted in March 1881, but was then found guilty of the murder of Sheriff William Brady.
Robert Stahl
Robert is a historian, professor emeritus at Arizona State University and member of the Billy The Kid Outlaw Gang (BTKOG) - a non-profit organisation with the aim of preserving the truth and promoting education in the history of Billy the Kid.

Is it possible that Garrett could have shot the wrong man in that darkened room? The whole hamlet of more than 50 people saw the Kid's body once or more during the morning of his death, as his body was washed and clothed by local women and was on display in the saloon for part of the morning. It was also taken back to Pete Maxwell's bedroom and placed at or near the spot where the Kid fell. Not one of the individuals who were there ever said it was not the Kid. Indeed all went to their graves, some over 50 years after the Kid's death, insisting they saw the Kid dead. Furthermore, six men who knew the Kid well both in person and on sight served on the coroner's jury, and all swore it was the Kid. So there is ample eyewitness support by numerous credible persons that Garrett did not kill the wrong man in that darkened room.

You've been pursuing a death certificate from the New Mexico Supreme Court for the man known as 'Billy the Kid', for 15 July 1881. Why wasn't that originally issued? What would be the reason be for the court not to create the certificate today? My colleagues Dr Nancy N Stahl and Marilyn Stahl Fischer, and I pursued a death certificate for the Kid because one was never created - and as part of that certificate we have been adamant about the fact that it should include the Kid's actual death date of 15 July 1881 as opposed to the traditional date of 14 July. The coroner's jury report never stated a time or date of death, which was typical of the era in rural areas of the Old West. Furthermore, I have yet to find a violent death in New Mexico in the 1800s that was followed by a death certificate being created. The Supreme Court cannot 'create' a death certificate, but can order the state office that can do its duty and create one. We went to the Supreme Court after months of trying to get the Office of the Medical Investigator to act. They refused to do their statutory duties and then refused to get back to us. We had no other legal recourse in New Mexico other than to go to the Supreme Court. We supplied credible and substantial documentary evidence to the Supreme Court for them to act in our favour, but they have not issued the court order to the New Mexico Office of the Medical Investigator for them to act. We believe that the Supreme Court and the New Mexico Office of the Medical Investigator consider our efforts to be publicity stunts rather than a good faith request by three historians to correct the historical record.

The BTKOG seeks to preserve and promote the truth about the Kid. Is there much in the way of rumour surrounding the legend you'd like to squash? I do believe that important events in the current accepted stories of his escape from the Lincoln County Jail on 28 April need to be 'squashed', such as the notion that he picked up a gun in the privy when he went to relieve himself and that he intended all along to kill Bob Olinger. Another that needs to end immediately is the rumour that there was widespread belief that Garrett did not kill the 'real' Billy the Kid. Quite the contrary, for more than three decades after 1881 there were no stories – not even a hint of a rumour – printed in even one New Mexico newspaper that suggested the Kid was still alive. Indeed, at the time of his death in 1908, Garrett was well recognised throughout New Mexico and the nation as the man who killed Billy the Kid. Had there been any doubt, he would not have been acclaimed by everyone as the killer of the Kid.
23:55 14 July 1881
The Kid is in one of the run-down houses on Peter Maxwell’s property where he
decides he’s hungry, grabs a knife and makes his way over to
Maxwell’s house to cut himself some beef!

00:00 15 July 1881
Garrett has already entered
the house himself and goes
to the bedroom to speak to
Maxwell to glean information
on the whereabouts of the
Kid. He sits on a chair near
his pillow.

00:04
Garrett’s companions are
outside when the Kid passes
them, but they have no idea
what he looks like and this
person speaks fluent Spanish
to some nearby Mexicans, so
don’t identify him.

00:05
The Kid enters the house. He
is barefoot and not wearing
his trademark hat. It’s dark,
so Garrett doesn’t recognise
him. Garrett stiffness as
Maxwell whispers the
identity of the man.

00:05-05:00
As the Kid approaches
Maxwell, he makes out a
second figure in the chair.
Garrett pulls his gun and,
almost simultaneously, the
Kid goes for his own revolver,
asking: “Quien es? Quien es?”

00:05:06
A heartbeat later, Garrett has
pulled the trigger and thrown
himself to the floor for
another shot, but his aim was
true. The Kid falls to the
floor and barely has time to exhale
before he is dead.

and sentenced to be hung five weeks later on 13
May. Because there was no jail in Lincoln county,
he was held in a two-storey repurposed
warehouse watched by Deputy Sheriff
Bell and Deputy Marshal Olinger,
where the Kid made the most of a
window of opportunity afforded
to him by his lackadaisical
wardens to steal a gun, kill his
guards and make a spectacular
escape from his prison.

Garrett was smarting when he
realised his inadequate provision
for the incarceration of the Kid and
returned to Fort Sumner, where the
Kid was believed to have fled, but the trail
had once again gone cold. For the next two and a
half months, Garrett would be kicking over stones
well into the sweltering New Mexico summer
through the door. Pete whispered to Garrett his
卧室 quizzing him on the whereabouts of the
Mexicans. They had found their man – but none of
them recognised him from a distance.

As it turned out, the Kid hadn’t
recognised them either. He slipped
off the wall he was perched on
and walked casually away to
Maxwell’s house.

After the stand-off at
Stinking Springs and the Kid’s
dramatic escape from jail, his
death seems anticlimactic; just
after midnight on 15 July, Billy
the Kid entered Peter Maxwell’s
house to pick up some beef for his
supper. Garrett was in Pete’s darkened
bedroom quizzing him on the whereabouts of the
Kid when the very man he was hunting stepped
through the door. Pete whispered to Garrett his
identity and, leaving nothing to chance, Garrett
took two shots, struck the Kid in his left breast
and killed him.

In the memoirs he wrote shortly after the
inquest that had discharged the marshal of his
duty and deemed the homicide justifiable, Garrett
dedicates no more than a short paragraph to the
unfolded scene in the dark room. There was no
classic showdown, the men weren’t even aware
of each other’s presence until those final mortal
seconds, and with his last words, it seems the Kid
didn’t even know who had sent him to meet his
maker. In as much that the Kid’s infamy began to
spread during the long nothing periods of Garrett’s
hunt, when rumour of this rebellious young
gunslinger and his long-legged lawman nemesis
gestated into legend, his ignominious demise has,
perhaps fittingly, been made much of by countless
authors and Hollywood film makers since.

07 TRUE OR FALSE?
The Kid and Garrett were
friends

THE ANSWERS

01 FALSE
02 FALSE
03 FALSE
04 TRUE
05 TRUE
06 TRUE
07 TRUE
08 TRUE
09 TRUE
10 TRUE

The Kid's photograph was common
Spanish was as common
as English.

Billy the Kid was
McCarty and Bonney
former colonial Mexico,
wrong side.

The Kid is thought to
have killed nine, five of
those in shoot-outs.

Several witnesses,
including Garrett
himself, testified to
01. FALSE
02. FALSE
03. FALSE
04. FALSE
05. TRUE
06. FALSE
07. TRUE
08. TRUE
09. TRUE
10. TRUE
Timeline
SEPTEMBER 1845
Farmers see the leaves on their potato plants turning black. The blight is reported to be Phytophthora infestans and devastates Ireland’s staple crop.

FEBRUARY 1846
The first shiploads of corn arrive from the USA, having been delayed by bad weather. Poorly equipped Irish mills slow the distribution process further.

SUMMER 1846
Charles Trevelyan cancels corn imports, insisting that doing so will prevent the Irish becoming “habitually dependent” on the British government.

JANUARY 1847
In the midst of a freezing winter and following months of hunger, the government finally agrees to open soup kitchens for the starving peasants.

Did you know?
Many of the leaders of the 1916 Easter Rebellion against the British had families who had been affected by the famine.
What caused it?
Before the Great Famine, the potato was Ireland’s staple crop. Rich in protein, carbohydrates, minerals and vitamins, it was possible to subsist on this one vegetable alone – and more than 3 million peasants did just that. However, in August 1845, farmers began to notice the leaves on their potato plants turning black. Potatoes dug out of the ground at first looked edible, but shrivelled and rotted within days. The cause was an airborne fungus known as phytophthora infestans, and it spread across the entire country. The British Conservative government began importing corn from the USA to feed the hungry peasants, but in June 1846, the Liberals came to power, and Charles Trevelyan took control of Famine policy. He was a staunch proponent of the ‘laissez faire’ doctrine and cancelled the importation of any more corn, believing the famine to be a “judgment of God” that would end the cycle of poverty resulting from the Irish dependence on the potato. Against all expectations, the blight remained for another four years, with catastrophic consequences.

What were the effects?
By September 1846, starvation struck in the areas where people had been dependent on the potato. People began to eat nettles, seaweed, roots and even grass. They sold their livestock and pawned everything they owned. Children often went unfed as parents struggled to continue working. Despite this, most died not from hunger but from related diseases such as typhus, dysentery and famine dropsy. In Spring 1847, government-sponsored soup kitchens were established, but the pitiful rations were not enough to prevent malnutrition and many slowly starved. Landlords evicted their penniless tenants, or loaded them onto ships bound for North America under the false promise of money. About one-fifth of the 100,000 people who set sail on these ‘coffin ships’ died during the voyage.

Who was involved?
Sir Robert Peel
1788-1850
The Conservative prime minister made the controversial decision to repeal the Corn Laws in order to free up food for the Irish.

Charles Trevelyan
1890-1970
With his laissez-faire doctrine, the assistant secretary to HM Treasury was blamed for slowing relief for the famine.

William Smith O’Brien
1899-1985
An Irish nationalist MP, O’Brien led a rebellion against British rule during the blight, but was arrested and exiled.
FROM YEARS OF HARD LABOUR AND TORTURE TO VERMIN-INFESTED CELLS AND OVERCROWDING, SOME OF HISTORY’S PRISONS HAVE GAINED A FEARSOME REPUTATION.
Although the idea of imprisoning people as punishment dates back to the era of the Ancient Greeks, until 200 years ago prisons were most commonly used for the detention of people awaiting other fates, whether they be trials, torture or execution. Attitudes began to shift in the 18th century when longer-term imprisonment came to be seen not only as a viable alternative to the death penalty but as a method of reform and rehabilitation. This led to the emergence of the modern prison, and it heralded a new era of order, structure and, most crucially, rehabilitation. A key moment came when John Howard published The State Of The Prisons in 1777. Jails became more regimented following the implementation of his ideas, which included assigning one inmate to a single cell and separate sections for men, women, young offenders and debtors. Indeed, Britain’s Penitentiary Act of 1779 saw the building of two modern prisons in London that brought solitary confinement, religious instruction and hard labour to the prison system. Other ideas also began to emerge about how prisoners should be treated: by the 1820s in the USA, silence was the order of the day as the authorities sought to prevent inmates from spreading contaminating ideas.

It has been a long process to arrive at the prisons we have today, but even now executions and the torture of inmates endures. Some jails have been worse than others, though, so here we look at ten prisons throughout history that have attracted notoriety and struck fear into those found guilty of committing a crime.

THE BASTILLE
PARIS, FRANCE 1417-1789

This once-imposing structure in the French capital is still remembered today – but only for its symbolic downfall.

10

Built as a fortress on the east side of Paris to defend the French city against the English in 1357, the Bastille was declared an official state prison in 1417. It was certainly an impressive structure with eight 30-metre-high towers and a 24-metre-wide moat around the connecting walls, making it hard to get in and just as difficult to escape from.

Imprisonment became the Bastille’s primary function from 1659, when thousands of rebels, journalists, criminals and dissenters were jailed often without trial over the course of 120 years. There were few accounts of life inside, but one, written anonymously, called Remarques Historiques, notes “strong double doors with large bolts let into enormous locks” and dungeons “filled with a mud which exhales the most offensive scent” in which toads, newts, rats and spiders lived.

The writer notes that the “tyrant Louis XI confined those whom he was desirous of destroying” in these dungeons including the princes of Armagnac, who were placed in holes sunk into the stone work, the bottoms of which were conical and so left their feet without a resting place. He talks of tiny rooms at the top of the towers where there was scarcely room for a bed and little light. He also discusses dreadful-sounding iron cages and terrible food that “contributes much to ruin the health of prisoners and cries for vengeance to God and man.”

While conditions were not entirely bad – inmates were eventually allowed access to books, ink, paper and visitors – it was sporadic accounts such as this coupled with the rebellious nature of many of those imprisoned there that galvanised the French against the Bourbon monarchy. The prison came to be seen as a symbol of repression and royal authority, and on 14 July 1789, with rising republican feeling, the Bastille was stormed even though just seven inmates were being held there.

The prison was soon overcome by the charging revolutionaries. They killed the governor, spiked his head and carried it around the streets. Such action against a most-feared prison was the catalyst for the French Revolution, which saw the monarchy abolished in 1792 and the Bastille destroyed. The day is now celebrated annually in France.
Construction began on Pentonville prison on 10 April 1840, and the aim was to build a jail for the modern era. A total of 520 prisoners were kept in solitary confinement inside small cells that were four metres long and two metres wide. This ensured the prison could adhere to what was known as the separate system. Pioneered by Cherry Hill Prison, in Pennsylvania in the United States of America, it sought to give prisoners time to think about their life and crime.

A letter to the editor of the London Evening Standard on 12 April 1844 hinted at public doubts over the approach. But the writer was fully supportive, praising the “important experiment” and its allowance for daily worship, education and books. Older prisons, he wrote, had allowed “occasional intercourse among criminals of all classes,” which had promoted “further demoralisation.” Pentonville, on the other hand, was leaving “a moral and religious impression on the mind.”

Under such a regime, prisoners were not referred to by name and they were forbidden to talk to each other in case they learned new tricks that would cause them to re-offend (chatter between inmates was a common reason for prisoners being flogged). During exercises, inmates had to wear brown cloth masks over their face and hold rope to feel their way ahead. It ensured their time was deliberately claustrophobic, dull and punishing.

Yet the separate system also caused hysteria and other mental health problems, with some prisoners attempting suicide. This prompted a change in thinking, and so in 1853, the stage system was introduced, allowing prisoners to be rewarded for good behaviour. By performing tasks such as painting, shoemaking and sewing, they were kept out of trouble. Good behaviour meant they could rise through set social ranks inside the jail.

Pentonville’s notoriety rose when, in 1902, it began to imprison inmates who had been sentenced to death following the closure of Newgate prison. An execution room was built alongside new cells and the prison also became the base for educating new hangmen. Executions continued until 6 July 1961, when Edwin Bush became the final prisoner to be hanged at the jail.
CELEBRITY CELLMATES
Some well-known names have spent time locked up in HM Prison Pentonville

Oscar Wilde
Author, playwright and poet
Date of incarceration: 1895
Crime: Sodomy and gross indecency
Sentence: Two years' hard labour

Arthur Koestler
Author and journalist
Date of incarceration: 1940
Crime: Suspected illegal immigrant
Sentence: Six weeks

Simon Dee
TV interviewer and radio DJ
Date of incarceration: 1974
Crime: Non-payment of rates on his Chelsea home
Sentence: 28 days

Boy George
Musician
Date of incarceration: 2009
Crime: Assault and false imprisonment
Sentence: 15 months

Pete Doherty
Musician
Date of incarceration: 2011
Crime: Cocaine possession
Sentence: Six weeks

Pentonville Prison continues to be used today, although it is often criticised for its ageing conditions.

CAMP 22
NORTH KOREA 1965-2012
North Korea’s gulag housed 50,000 prisoners at its peak and had a staggeringly high death rate.

08 North Korea’s government continued the existence of Camp 22, a huge maximum-security political prison surrounded by an electric fence and barbed wire close to the Russian border. But strong evidence points to tens of thousands of people having been routinely tortured, beaten and housed there in the most inhumane of environments, making it one of the country’s most horrific secrets.

Most were incarcerated on the belief they opposed the country’s leadership, yet family members were sent to the camps with them on the basis of collective responsibility. Controlled by about 1,000 guards, the prisoners were forced to work hard and they survived on meagre food rations. Many died of malnutrition while others were subjected to chemical experiments or executed. Chillingly, similar camps are understood to still exist.

HOA LO PRISON
VIETNAM 1886-1983
Dark and dirty, this heavily fortified prison housed US POWs and was seen as a symbol of colonialist repression.

07 Hoa Lo was used by French colonialists to jail Vietnamese political prisoners, often shackling them by a single leg in communal cells. The terrible conditions bred great resentment, as did the beheading of revolutionaries, but rebels continued to be imprisoned until France left the country in 1954. By this time, the jail had some 2,000 inmates – about four times its intended capacity. The subsequent separation of Vietnam into north and south sparked a bloody war and the rat-infested prison was used to jail US prisoners, who dubbed it the Hanoi Hilton. Held in isolation in tiny cells, the prisoners of war were tortured, starved and forced to sleep on concrete slabs. Some were hung from meat hooks by their wrists with their arms tied behind their backs. US senator John McCain was jailed at Hoa Lo for five and a half years after being shot down in Hanoi in 1967.

TOWER OF LONDON
LONDON, UK 1106-1952
The Tower has had many roles, from a treasury to a public records office, but it is most infamous for its time as a jail.

06 The Tower of London came into its own as a prison in the early 16th century, most notably from 1534, when scores of King Henry VIII’s political opponents were locked away on charges of treason or heresy. The conditions they were kept in depended on the prisoner and the amount of information needed by interrogators, but they could range from splendid to squalid.

That said, there was always a fear of execution (Lord Lovat being the last to be beheaded on Tower Hill on 9 April 1747) and it was not uncommon for royals to meet a nasty end. Torture was less rife, although victims would reel from the sight of manacles, which left them hanging by the hands and arms. They would also fear the rack, which painfully stretched any unfortunate body that was strapped to it.
Kilmainham Gaol, modelled on a panoptic design, opened in 1796 at a time of great sectarian strife in Ireland. There had been a growing call for Irish political independence from Britain and it had led to numerous clashes, culminating in the Irish Rebellion of 1798.

Kilmainham Gaol found itself playing a key role almost immediately, as one of its first inmates was Henry Joy McCracken, a founding member of the Society of United Irishmen. He was subsequently hanged for leading rebels in an attack on Antrim, but he had become the first of many political prisoners to be locked up in the jail.

Not that it was a political prison to start with. Petty criminals were locked up in droves in the early decades and numbers peaked when starving people stole apples, turnips, bread and butter and other foodstuffs during the Great Famine of 1842 and 1852. Although the prison conditions were cramped, with five inmates to a cell and a single candle for warmth and light, many thieves desperately wanted to avoid being one of the 1 million hungry people who eventually died. They committed their crimes in order to access a greater abundance of food in jail.

It had led to overcrowding, with men, women and children locked up together and forced to sleep on straw. It also meant the idea of one cell housing one inmate had fallen by the wayside. However, by the late 1860s, Kilmainham was being used purely for political detainees, with some very high-profile people inside. One of these was Republican rebel leader and Irish nationalist Robert Emmet, who was jailed in Kilmainham in 1803 awaiting trial for treason following the rebellion against the British in the same year.

Other high-profile prisoners included the leader of the Young Irishers Thomas Francis Meagher, who spent time in the prison alongside William Smith O’Brien when the 1848 rebellion collapsed. The founder of the Irish Parliamentary Party Charles Stewart Parnell in 1881 also found himself locked up along with members of the Irish Republican Army (IRA).

Perhaps most infamously of all, no less than 14 of the 16 men involved in the Easter Uprisings of 1916 were executed by firing squad at Kilmainham Gaol (the other two being hanged at Cork Detention Barracks and Pentonville Prison). Prisoners from the civil war had also been held there in 1922. Such incarcerations meant the prison became widely viewed as an oppressive symbol within Ireland and, keen to foster better relations with the public, the prison was decommissioned by the Irish Free State in 1924.
PORT ARTHUR  TASMANIA, AUSTRALIA 1830-77
The brutal penal colony thousands of miles from British shores

By the end of that decade, attitudes were changing and the authorities looked to exert control over prisoners through mental rather than physical means. It led to the building of the Separate Prison in 1850, which had 80 solitary confinement cells. Punished prisoners would be forced to wear a hood and ordered not to speak. The guards would also be quiet. This had a profound effect on the inmates, who suffered mental health problems.

Conditions were such that many contemplated escape but there was little chance. Port Arthur was heavily guarded and surrounded by dangerous waters and jungle. Its success ensured the penal colony continued to grow. The mill became a 480-strong penitentiary in 1857 and an asylum was constructed in 1864 for those most affected by their time in the colony. It closed in 1877.

Rikers Island
NEW YORK 1932-PRESENT
Calls for reform of the jails on this 400-acre New York island have been made for decades

DEVIL’S ISLAND  FRENCH GUIANA 1852-1953
Nicknamed the ‘Dry Guillotine’, prisoners often suffered a terrible slow death

Death was almost inevitable, though. Not only was disease rife but prisoners were mercilessly beaten or shot by brutal guards. Many were worked to extinction or died trying to escape through shark-infested waters or hazardous jungle. Scores committed suicide or found themselves under the guillotine. An estimated 80,000 inmates sent to Cayenne never returned.

As well as being house on the islands, dangerous thieves and murderers were also sent off shore, but no matter where the convicts ended up, prison life in Cayenne was horrid. Inmates would work under the burning sun on timber camps or help build a pointless road called Route Zero. What little food they were given would be withdrawn if they could not complete their work. Thousands became malnourished and died.

Gang rivalry worsened in the 1980s and 1990s when the prison population at Rikers Island hit 20,000. There were bloody battles between the likes of the Nestas and the Latin Kings and numerous cases of assault and rape. The New York Times calls incidents of slashings and stabbings exceeded 1,000 in some years as guards lost control of the prison. Yet problems still continue, with City Council member Daniel Dromm calling for its closure in 2015.

The prison cells in the Separate Prison on Port Arthur, each one numbered

Today, Rikers Island has an average daily population of 14,000

Port Arthur was founded in 1830 on the Tasmin Peninsula as a timber station, was seen as ideal for housing the worst repeat offenders.

Prisoners were made to work hard and they were flogged for disobedience or bad behaviour. A key task was the gathering of timber from the surrounding bush that could be used in construction. But prisoners also worked in a flour mill and granary that was built in 1843, as more industries were added to a penal colony growing in geographical size and inmate numbers. At its peak in the 1840s, there were more than 1,000 prisoners.

Today, Rikers Island was one of four sites that made up the penal colony of Cayenne
ALCATRAZ  SAN FRANCISCO 1859-63

Would-be escapees would get stuck between the Rock and a hard place, but it didn’t stop them from trying.

When prisoners were sent to Alcatraz, one and a half miles off the coast of San Francisco, they were handed a book of regulations spelling out what was expected of them. They were to refrain from trading, gambling, selling, giving or loaning property or services; they were required to work eight hours a day from Monday to Friday and they were to do whatever they were told and conduct themselves in a quiet and orderly fashion. “You are entitled to food, clothing, shelter, and medical attention,” said regulation number five. “Anything else you get is a privilege.”

Alcatraz was used as a prison shortly after California became part of the United States in 1853. The government had purchased the island from the Mexican government six years earlier and it was built up as a fortress, imprisoning soldiers from 1859, civilians from 1861 and conscientious objectors following the outbreak of World War I. When the US army pulled out of the island in 1934, it was taken over by the Department of Justice. It then became an ultra-maximum security federal penitentiary, with the majority of those sent to serve their time there being the most troublesome and dangerous prisoners from other jails.

The first civilian convicts arrived on the 22-acre rocky outcrop on 11 August 1934, handcuffed and chained in pairs. They joined 32 jailed solders inherited by the prison from the army, and each would have seen why the authorities felt Alcatraz to be the perfect location. Not only did it have foreboding, sheer walls and cliffs, but it was ringed by freezing, shark-infested waters that had the power to sweep potential escapees away with its strong currents. With the cellhouse built from reinforced concrete, it was viewed as more than secure enough to hold the fearless gang members and criminals that had begun to emerge under Prohibition and had grown in number during the Great Depression that gripped the USA at the time.

Its prime location and isolation meant Alcatraz became the subject of much talk in the USA, not least because it began to house some well-known faces. They included Al Capone, who arrived in 1934 shortly after the first arrivals, having been transferred from his relatively cushy surrounding in the Federal Penitentiary in Atlanta. He was initially assigned cell 433 and told to work in the laundry. “It looks like Alcatraz has got me licked,” he told Warden Johnston when his attempts at gaining special privileges were constantly denied. Like everybody else, he would have to stick to the rules if he was to be allowed the delights of work, mail, monthly 90-minute visits, library access, the run of the exercise yard or the countless other things that could be whisked away for bad behaviour.

To help keep control, the prison population was limited to 312 prisoners housed in B and C Blocks. Thick steel bars were installed and the cells could be opened en masse using a centralised cell locking system. Armed guards kept watch from galleries and there were frequent walks past the cells, each of which measured just 1.5 metres by 2.75 metres. The only times inmates got together in large groups was at meal times and in the recreation yard. This is when violence between them could erupt.

Prisoners found guilty of misconduct or attempting to escape would be sent to D-Block, or the Treatment Unit, as it was called. There, the worst offenders would be shut in total darkness, with those on the highest end of the scale being stripped naked and forced into cells in which the only facility was a hole in the floor. Such threat of punishment did not prevent the Battle of Alcatraz in May 1946, though: during this escape attempt, two guards and three inmates were killed following a takeover when a bank robber, Bernard Coy, managed to prise open the bars protecting the gun gallery and overpower guard Bert Burch. Rising costs and a notorious reputation forced Alcatraz to close on 21 March 1963.

GREAT ESCAPES

36 men attempted to break out of Alcatraz – two of them twice. None were officially successful.
INMATES INVOLVED: JOSEPH BOWERS
LOCATION: GARBAGE INCINERATOR
Serving 25 years for a post office robbery committed in 1931, Joseph Bowers was spotted by prison guards trying to climb a fence. They opened fire, causing him to fall to his death.

INMATES INVOLVED: RUFUS FRANKLIN, THOMAS LIMERICK AND JAMES LUCAS
LOCATION: MODEL INDUSTRIES BUILDING
After reigniting blows to the head of a custodial officer with a hammer, these escapees headed for the roof, where Franklin and Limerick were shot. The officer and Limerick died. Franklin and Lucas were convicted of murder.

INMATES INVOLVED: JOSEPH CRETZER, BERNARD COY, MIRAN THOMPSON, SAM SHOCKLEY, MARVIN HUBBARD AND CLARENCE CARNES
LOCATION: MAIN CELLHOUSE
This escape attempt became known as the Battle of Alcatraz as the six prisoners overpowered guards, released inmates and prised open the bars protecting the gun gallery to dish out arms. They were foiled by an exterior door that had jammed, trapping them inside. Guards were taken as hostages and Cretzer fired at them, killing one, Bill Miller. Another, Harold Stites, was later shot dead too. When armed guards eventually seized control, Cretzer, Coy and Hubbard were found dead. Shockley and Hubbard were executed and Carnes was given an extra life sentence.

INMATES INVOLVED: TED WALTERS
LOCATION: LAUNDRY BUILDING
Walters slipped away from the prison laundry building, climbed a fence, injured himself but made it to the water’s edge. He was found on the beach opposite the laundry.

INMATES INVOLVED: JOHN BAYLESS
LOCATION: GARBAGE DETAIL
Having slipped away from the guards and entering the water, Bayless realised the futility of swimming to San Francisco and he was brought back.

INMATES INVOLVED: JOHN PAUL SCOTT AND DARYL LEE PARKER
LOCATION: MAIN CELLHOUSE AREA
Scott and Parker sawed through bars, used inflated gloves for buoyancy and swam for the mainland. Parker did not get far but Scott ended up close to the Golden Gate Bridge. He was too tired to climb ashore and was captured and returned.

INMATES INVOLVED: JOSEPH CRETZER, SAM SHOCKLEY, ARNOLD KYLE AND LLOYD BARKDOLL
LOCATION: MODEL INDUSTRIES BUILDING
These four held guards hostage in the mat shop but they couldn’t saw through the bars and gave up, earning them five years in D-block.

INMATES INVOLVED: FRANK MORRIS, JOHN ANGLIN, CLARENCE ANGLIN AND ALLEN WEST
LOCATION: MAIN CELLHOUSE
This audacious attempt used the oldest trick in the book: the inmates used spoons and saw blades to enlarge the ventilation ducts and put dummy heads in their beds to look like they were sleeping. It may have worked. Scarperring through the ducts to the roof and sliding down a vent pipe, the inmates got to the water. With raincoats assembled into floats, they disappeared. They were never caught and their bodies never surfaced.
It says a lot of the tapestry of history that more than a century after the grisly events that shocked Victorian London books are still being released on the subject of Jack the Ripper. Yet this is far apart from the latest tome claiming to have previously undiscovered proof on the identity of one of history’s most infamous boogeymen.

Right from the beginning, author Richard Whittington-Egan distances himself from these kinds of books, insisting that he is writing this “not as an innovator, but as a commentator.” His statement is more than a little modest considering that he can rightly be credited as one of the founding fathers of ‘Ripperology’, having studied the case for more than 30 years, and even spoken to people who were alive during the events.

Throughout Jack The Ripper: The Definitive Casebook, Whittington-Egan devotes himself to analysing and invariably rebuffing the assorted theories that have been put forward regarding the Ripper’s true identity. Melvyn Fairclough’s case in favour of Queen Victoria’s personal physician Sir William Gull being the culprit is dismissed as lacking “even a modicum of proof”; popular suspect Montague John Druitt is exonerated as “too many persuasive arguments melt away at the point of proof.” Even the more outlandish names put forward - like Prince Albert and Alice’s Adventures In Wonderland author Lewis Carroll - are put under his magnifying glass and subsequently cleared.

Yet he doesn’t stop there. In analysing the killings and their cultural impact, all kinds of approaches to the events are looked at. Placed in context against the socio-political and psycho-sexual interpretations of what occurred, it becomes clear that what Whittington-Egan has penned here isn’t merely an investigation into an unsolved murder case, it’s the result of what happens when a society attempts to shed light on unexplained occurrences, only to find itself under a microscope. The public reaction to the murders told us far more about society than the acts themselves managed, and the writer clearly recognises that.

Bearing this in mind, it’s hard to find fault with a piece of work that has clearly upturned every stone, verified every source and examined every counter-argument with the very same scrutiny with which it too expects to be put under. It’s unapologetically academic in tone, and not the kind of read you’ll be able to casually pick up and continue with from time to time, but then it doesn’t attempt to be. Jack The Ripper: The Definitive Casebook is clearly intended as a scholarly pursuit first and foremost, and you should definitely bear that in mind before picking it up.

If you think you know the Jack the Ripper case inside out, then prepare to be proved sadly mistaken. If old ground is being trodden on then it doesn’t feel like it, with known facts, new theories and more contemporary discoveries being given relevant examination by the writer, and subsequently presented to us in his always engaging prose. If there’s a better Jack the Ripper book out there, we’re yet to see it.
A STREET IN ARNHEM: THE AGONY OF OCCUPATION AND LIBERATION

Five years of war. Three countries. One street

**Author** Robert Kershaw  **Publisher** Ian Allan  **Price** £10.99 paperback  **Released** Out now

The Dutch remember the war. Their cities still bear the marks of bombings and restoration, of starting again. Every city, whether it’s Amsterdam, Utrecht or Groningen, has a story. Few of those stories, however, are as fascinating as that of Arnhem, a relatively small city in which one street served as the battleground for German and British conflict. In *A Street In Arnhem*, Robert Kershaw paints a picture of the harrowing strife of Dutch civilians and British and German soldiers during this battle.

Kershaw previously covered the 1944 Battle of Arnhem from the perspective of the German front in *It Never Snows In September*. This time, however, he narrows his scope further by focusing on a single street, De Utrechtseweg. This approach is refreshing, and explores concepts of family, community and solidarity during war.

Dutch readers can breathe a sigh of relief at the painstaking effort that Kershaw has gone through to accurately reflect the experience of real Dutch citizens. One only needs to scan the Acknowledgements and Sources to recognise typical Dutch names, places, archives and museums. More importantly, the sheer quantity of witnesses, many of them just children during the harrowing events, backs the authenticity and credibility of the content. One such witness is Wil Rieken, whose account of holding on to her straw dog Bota while listening to the sounds of gunshots is heart wrenching.

It’s ironic, then, that Kershaw’s incredible research efforts are the book’s only downfall, as sometimes the sheer amount of detail can veer towards the mundane and trivial. Kershaw dug deep into the archives of Oosterbeek to find such details, but at times he could have afforded to be more selective. However, this does not subtract from what is undoubtedly an incredible accomplishment. With *A Street In Arnhem*, Kershaw provides an emotional and incredibly insightful account of World War II through the eyes of the inhabitants of a single street, and the soldiers fighting a devastating war.

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ROMMEL: IN HIS OWN WORDS

Find out what made the ‘Desert Fox’ tick

**Edited by** Dr John Pimlott  **Publisher** Amber Books  **Price** £20  **Released** Out now

Shortly before his forced suicide, Erwin Rommel knew what was coming. “I know they will kill me on the way,” he wrote. Accused of plotting to assassinate Hitler, Germany’s most respected and celebrated general was no fool when it came to knowing his own fate. Collecting together letters, dispatches and images, Dr John Pimlott, former head of the department of War Studies at the Royal Military Academy, presents a frank and detailed look into the man who was regarded by both sides as a chivalrous and honourable leader.

Giving a complete picture of his career, *Rommel: In His Own Words* charts the Desert Fox’s rise through the ranks in World War I, his activities in the interwar years and then moves onto his famous campaigns in World War II. A narrative is created throughout the book using Rommel’s own writings and words interspersed with a running commentary from Dr Pimlott, who gives the reader important context and also supplies background information. Boasting more than 120 photographs, many taken by the Desert Fox himself, *Rommel: In His Own Words* allows us to visualise the struggles of war and helps us to get inside the mind of the man himself.

We are shown the pride and devotion he felt for the men under his command, and can also catch a glimpse into his more intimate side in letters to his family where he describes the calming effect that his dogs have on him.

This culmination of narrative and glimpses into Rommel’s mind results in a thoroughly researched and well-presented book that offers excellent insight into an illustrious military career. While experts may struggle to find new information here, there is still plenty available to make it an enjoyable and worthwhile read, giving all readers access to the inner workings of one of the greatest generals of World War II.
**LOST BRITAIN**

Get lost in history

**Author** David Long  
**Publisher** Michael O'Mara Books  
**Price** £9.99  
**Released** Out now

Long-standing Britain fanatic David Long has released yet another study of British heritage, this time in the form of *Lost Britain*, a book that delves into the traditions and landmarks of a nation lost in time.

Much like other books by Long, *Lost Britain* is a charming and fascinating look into the long and illustrious history of Great Britain. The facts are broken down into bite-size chunks, with a brief summary of what you can expect to discover from each nugget of information in order to whet your appetite – or not.

Without any specific organisation, it’s easy to dip in and out of the facts that take your fancy, from the lost heart of Anne Boleyn in Suffolk to the Football Association’s ban on women’s football at the time of the Munitionettes’ Cup in North Yorkshire. A welcome inclusion in the book is a wealth of imagery, providing photographs, sketches and paintings to illustrate some of the facts. In place of any logical organisation, the facts are listed alphabetically – unfortunately, the entries aren’t split into sections depending on their topic, which can be a little frustrating to sift from one topic to another. There isn’t much of a sense of flow that can be found in other books by Long – particularly within his *Bizarre* series – and that can make it a tricky book to commit to reading for long periods of time.

Sadly, the book also lacks the humour that has been characteristic of Long’s other books, and while there’s no denying that some of the entries are truly captivating, his passion for British history isn’t quite as evident as it has been in his other publications.

If you’re looking to develop your pub quiz skills, or you’d like to confound your colleagues with irrelevant (but interesting) facts about British history, Long’s books are almost definitely for you, and despite its slightly dry and slightly more serious tone, *Lost Britain* doesn’t disappoint.

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**THE BEDBUG**

The world of wartime espionage like you’ve never seen it before

**Author** Peter Day  
**Publisher** Biteback Publishing  
**Price** £9.99  
**Released** Out now

Spying has been a critical part of warfare for centuries and is an art form perfected by very few. Klop Ustinov, it seems, was one of that elite group, and it is his story that Peter Day sets out to tell.

Ustinov, nicknamed ‘the Bedbug’ due to his ability to hop into the bed of any woman he chose, led a fascinating life, filled to the brim with luxuries, intrigue and danger. Day paints an enthralling picture of a man who seemed to spend his entire life right on the edge, seeking out drama and adventure.

The book is meticulously researched, charting Ustinov’s life from birth to his eventual position as one of the most influential Allied spies of World War II. Day’s writing style echoes Ustinov’s character, proving to be light and breezy while still remaining purposeful and intelligent.

Day explains any complex issues that arise, mostly involving encounters with double agents and political infighting, with a simple clarity, allowing the reader to thoroughly immerse themselves in the bizarre carousel of wartime spying.

Day is thorough and informative, sticking very much to the brief in the first half of the book. However, by the second, Ustinov barely makes an appearance. This section of the book deals with various major players in the war that Ustinov may or may not have had dealings with. It does feel rather like Day is padding out the book with some quite tenuous connections and, interesting as it still is, this does cause a bit of a frustration.

Had the book not been set up purely as a biography of Ustinov, this would not have been an issue, but it does leave the reader feeling a little cheated when whole chapters can go by with only a few mentions of his name.

However, this is an extremely well written, impressively researched account of an amazing man.
Greek and Roman myths and legends have fascinated us for centuries, and their role in the formation of modern literature and storytelling is undeniable. The fascination with these tales is born out of its roots in history. How much of great Greek and Roman legends about places such as Troy or Alexandria can we regard as a truthful reflection of the geographical places in those times? There are obvious mythical and supernatural elements within epic poems such as the Iliad, but can these elements be of historical value through what they tell us about Greek society and religion?

In Nigel Spivey’s new book, he provides an account of the development of Greek and Roman culture through ten of its most famous places, and with it, their legends. Among these places are Rome, Utopia and Constantinople, all of which are sure to ring a bell even with those who are unfamiliar with mythology.

This is where Spivey is most successful: creating accessibility. While Spivey's credentials as a lecturer at Cambridge ensure an incredibly well written study of the classics, his greatest achievement is providing context for stories that some may only know through films such as 300 and Troy, explaining their significance while adeptly preserving the charm of the source material.

The stories of Troy and Sparta do not become long winded, despite Spivey’s exploration of the philosophical and political aspects of these civilizations, and how they’re still relevant today. The final result is one that will entertain fans of Zack Snyder, further intrigue those with an existing passion for the classics, and remain successful at providing a new level of understanding for both.

Britain has been home to some pretty powerful dynasties in its time, so it’s no wonder that the Stuarts struggle to compete with the big dogs when it comes to their place in history. With Wolf Hall and The Tudors stealing the limelight on the small screen, James I and his successors have been forced backstage, at least in terms of popular culture. But the Stuart era also has a lot to sate our thirst for thrill. Spanning more than a century, the dynasty saw seven monarchs, a civil war and England’s most audacious terror plot. The Stuarts In 100 Facts aims to fill the gaps in our knowledge with concise, easy-to-digest morsels of insight into this deceptively turbulent time.

Part of Amberley Publishing’s new 100 Facts series, this pocket-sized book covers a wide range of topics, from witchcraft and warfare to fashion and fornication. The entries are limited to two pages each, allowing readers to dip in whenever they have a spare few minutes to soak up a little of the Stuart atmosphere. Dipping in is probably the best way to enjoy The Stuarts In 100 Facts; each fact is given some context so that it can be read as a standalone piece, but this does create repetition - handy if you're opening on a random page for a quick shot of history, but not so great when you're reading cover to cover. A timeline and Stuart family tree may also have aided the experience, as the facts do jump between time periods.

The author of this work has written it in a conversational tone, bringing in plenty of humour and ensuring that anyone can pick up a copy and enjoy it. Zuvich clearly has her areas of interest - scandal and high society being first and foremost - but she does a good job of including all of the most important aspects and events of the period. Overall, The Stuarts In 100 Facts is a handy tool for any history enthusiast looking for a quick burst of knowledge from a somewhat neglected dynasty.
Which city is this building in?

A gift from Stalin, this palace is one of the tallest buildings in Europe, but which city is it in?

Is it...
A. Minsk  B. Kiev  C. Warsaw

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What is Day of the Dead?

Adam McKenzie, Exeter

Halloween may be over, but there’s another spooky date for the diary. Day of the Dead, or Día de los Muertos, is a Mexican national holiday and - despite the name - it’s actually a celebration of life. Families gather to remember their loved ones by building altars of their favourite food, ornaments and photos. They visit graves and decorate them with offerings, such as marigolds – the Mexican flower of the dead – and sugar skulls. The most important part is to celebrate with parties, parades and plenty of food, as it’s believed to be the only time the dead can come and share the festivities with them. Although strongly associated with Mexico, Day of the Dead is celebrated in Brazil, Spain, Guatemala and throughout the world on 1/November.

The fact this coincides with Catholic All Saint’s Day and All Souls’ Day reveals a little about the history of this holiday. In the early 1500s, the Spanish conquered the Aztec Empire and tried to enforce their Catholic faith on the Native Americans that lived there. As a compromise, the conquered population integrated some of their own traditions for honouring the dead, and this is the result.

Why is gin known as ‘mother’s ruin’?

Courtney Daniel, Norwich

“Drunk for one penny, dead drunk for tuppence, straw for nothing!” said the placards in 1730s London, England. Gin was so cheap that it was the liquor of choice among the poorer factions of society. The authorities despaired and the spirit was blamed for everything - from poverty and prostitution to higher death rates and plummeting birth rates. Excessive drinking led to sterility and caused women to neglect their children, hence the moniker ‘mother’s ruin’.

With the average Londoner downing 14 gallons a year, the Gin Act of 1751 was passed in a bid to control its trade. This only served to drive it underground and London was more sloshed than it had ever been. The gin culture of London only came to an end when, in 1830, the Beerhouse Act was passed and removed all taxes on beer; 24,000 Public Houses were opened by the end of the year.

William Hogarth’s Gin Lane was a famous parody of London’s gin culture

First snaps of the Loch Ness monster

The first ever photograph of the mythical Loch Ness monster is published in Scottish newspaper the Daily Record. The photo was taken by local resident Hugh Gray.

Leon Trotsky expelled

Stalin, intent on assuming complete control of the Soviet state, expels his biggest rival and the former leader of the Bolshevik Reunion from the Soviet Communist Party.

Body of Robert Scott found

The frozen dead bodies of explorer Robert Falcon Scott and his two remaining companions are found after their fateful attempt to reach the South Pole.

Norway chooses a monarchy

A 79 per cent majority of people vote for a monarchy instead of a republic as a referendum is held a few months after the country’s independence from Sweden.

First Professional American football player

William Pudge Hefelfinger becomes the first professional player after being paid $500 to play for the Allegheny Athletic Association. Professional American football is born.

This day in history 12 November

2015

This celebration of the dead originated 3,000 years ago with the Aztecs
How did the Romans pronounce their numerals?

Robyn Richardson, Dundee

The Romans had words for their numbers just like we do so, for example, they would have said “novem” for nine, which is written as IX in Roman numerals. They even had words for larger numbers and many of these are still used today. A ‘hundred’ was ‘centum’, as in century or cent, while a ‘thousand’ was ‘mille’, as in mile (a Roman mile was 1000 paces). They didn’t have a need for numbers greater than that, so a million was just mille mille (a thousand thousand).

What is the history of beards?

Josephine Hammond, Swansea

Prehistoric men are believed to have had bushy beards for practical reasons: protection from the elements and to appear more menacing. In ancient times, however, it was a sign of honour, and cutting them off was actually a form of punishment. In the mid-300s BCE, beards were banned on soldiers for safety reasons, while in the Middle Ages, it was deeply offensive to touch another man’s whiskers and anyone who did so could be challenged to a duel. The Victorians saw that the face rug was brought back, though, and beards have continued to fall in and out of favour ever since. That’s the long and short of it.

According to the Guinness Book Of World Records, Hans Langseth had the longest beard at 17 feet 6 inches long.

Roman numerals are expressed by letters of the alphabet.

Alexander the Great

Nationality: Macedonian
Born-died: 356-323 BCE

The King of Macedonia and conqueror of the Persian Empire is known as one of the greatest military leaders in history. He built upon the strong army he inherited by employing engineers and weapons specialists, and in just 13 years his empire covered 3,000 miles. He also famously banned beards on soldiers, believing they would be grabbed by the enemy.

Discover the gruesome origin of ‘Sweet Fanny Adams’ at... historyanswers.co.uk
Martin G Bacon
My first cousin 13 times removed, John Proctor, was the first Proctor in the New World. He arrived in Jamestown, Virginia, aboard Deliverence, which was one of the two pinnaces built from the shipwreck of the Sea Venture. Born in London in 1583 to John Nicholas Proctor (1557) and Alice 'Alles' Graye (1561), John boarded the Sea Venture at the Thames in London to sail to Plymouth in Devon on 2 June 1609.

A seven-ship flotilla with Sea Venture as its flagship (towing two pinnaces), left Plymouth on 7 June 1609 bound for Jamestown. On 23 July 1609, the fleet ran into a hurricane and was very quickly separated. Sir George Somers (admiral of the company) was at the helm of Sea Venture when he spied land on the morning of 28 July. By that time, the water in the hold had risen to almost three metres high, and the crew and passengers were well past exhaustion having spent the time during the storm bailing out water. Somers deliberately drove the ship onto the reefs off what proved to be the 'Isle of the Devils' (Bermuda) in order to prevent its foundering. This allowed John Proctor and his fellow passengers (150 in all) plus a dog to land ashore safely.

John and the rest of the survivors, including the ship's captain Christopher Newport, Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Gates (future governor of Jamestown) and writer William Strachey, were...
stranded on Bermuda for approximately nine months. During that time they built two new ships, the pinnaces Deliverance and Patience, from Bermuda cedar and parts salvaged from Sea Venture, especially her rigging. Leaving behind some of those who had died and two convicted criminals, Deliverance, with John aboard, and Patience set sail on 10 May 1610, arriving in Jamestown on 23 May 1610.

One can only imagine the horror and sadness to learn on arrival that of the 500 survivors who preceded them, only 60 were found alive and most of these were dying. Because of this, it was decided that Jamestown was unviable and everyone boarded Deliverance and Patience to set sail for England. As they sailed down the James River, they were met by another relief fleet, bearing Governor Baron De La Warre, and in consequence Jamestown was saved.

John and his wife, Alice, settled on the Pace plantation called Pace’s Paines in a large, typical 17th-century house with 200 acres, where he grew tobacco for the Virginia Company. His land abutted north upon the stream that became known as Proctor’s Creek. John and Alice went on to have children including George Proctor, who was involved in Bacon’s Rebellion.

In 1622, Indians of the Powhatan Confederacy conducted the first large-scale attack on the English settlers as written in The Colonies - The Great Massacre Of 1622. It is thought that John was in England at the time of the massacre, as it is recorded that “Mistress Proctor, a proper civil and modest gentlewoman” assisted by her maidservant Elizabeth Abbott and a few male servants held out against the Indians until the English officers forced her to leave the house, threatening to burn it down, for her own safety. When she left, the Indians ransacked the house and set it ablaze.

Of an estimated 1,244 settlers, 334 of them were slaughtered, including 41 women and 26 children, and the first section of the colony was abandoned. After the loss of their home, the Proctors moved to Surry County near Jamestown on the James River. John Proctor received a patent for 200 acres of land from the Virginia Company in July of 1623 and received 100 acres in Henrico on the James River in 1626. John died in 1628 and Alice in 1627.
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Does this historical thriller crack the code for success?

WHAT THEY GOT WRONG...

01 Soviet spy John Cairncross is put on Turing’s team in the film. Although he did work at Bletchley Park, it was in an entirely different unit. However, the truly offensive inaccuracy here is the idea that Turing would have concealed a spy.

02 In the film, the enigma-breaking machine is named ‘Christopher’ in honour of Turing’s childhood friend. In reality, the machine was called ‘Victory’ and was a far more collaborative effort than the film portrays, with lots more people than Turing working on it.

03 Many people who knew Turing do not support the portrayal of him in the film. Although he was an eccentric and brilliant man, he is depicted as unable to work with others and not understanding humour. In reality, Turing was a popular man with a good sense of humour.

04 One of the hottest points of contention in this film is the fact that it seems to push the idea that Turing single-handedly invented the machine. That’s not true at all. Polish research was given to Britain and gave them a stable starting point for their work.

WHAT THEY GOT RIGHT...

A lot of the basic facts are true. Turing’s childhood friend Christopher did suddenly die of Bovine tuberculosis, Turing was put on trial for being gay and he was also chemically castrated. The engagement between him and Joan Clarke is also true, but the circumstances were different – it wasn’t any sort of ploy, but genuine affection.
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