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Inside the hidden world of shadow warriors

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15 shocking facts about our unsung Great War heroes

Jefferson and slavery
The president's barbaric obsession exposed

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Mutiny on the Bounty
Boston Tea Party
Battle of Culloden
Mao's China
The French Revolution

The women before Wallis
Edward VII's scandalous affairs

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Welcome

The Vikings have a reputation for being cold-blooded killers and reckless raiders, whose voyages were little more than testosterone-fuelled joyrides. But when we consider just how far their travels took them, we’re forced to think again about what really led them to venture out from their Scandinavian homeland. With evidence of settlements in North America, and with trade links that stretched as far east as Constantinople, might it be that the Vikings were a far more civilised and culturally rich people than we first thought them to be? This issue, we explore the lost kingdoms of the Vikings, and reveal just how much their legacy has influenced the modern world. Turn to page 28 to read the full feature.

Also inside, with the 80th anniversary of his coronation looming, we asked royal biographer Philip Ziegler to expose the truth behind Edward VIII’s life of scandal. You can read his article on page 38. We also celebrate the oft-overlooked role of women in World War I from page 66, and take a look at just how much their contributions altered their position in society.

Editor’s picks

Time Traveller’s Handbook
This issue, we transport you to Mao’s China, and reveal just who to avoid and befriend in a world where the walls have eyes.

Mutiny on the Bounty
Did Captain Bligh really deserve to be overthrown and abandoned by his crew? Discover the fact behind the fiction.

The secret world of the ninja
From throwing stars to ingenious disguises, we expose the real-life tricks and tactics of Japan’s shadow warriors.

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Vikings

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HISTORY IN COLOUR

LEE HARVEY OSWALD IS ASSASSINATED

While the USA was reeling from the assassination of its beloved president JFK, it was dealt yet another blow. The killer, Lee Harvey Oswald, was shot dead while being transferred to the county jail. Dallas nightclub owner Jack Ruby claimed he had done it to spare the First Lady the ordeal of a criminal trial.

24 November 1963
HISTORY IN PICTURES

PARIS UNDER WATER
The French capital came to a halt when the River Seine burst its banks. During the Great Flood, as it became known, the water rose eight metres above its normal level and thousands of Parisians were forced to take refuge in makeshift shelters. Wooden walkways were built to enable movement through the city, and many travelled by boat. The cost of the damage was estimated at 400 million francs, today equivalent to more than 1 billion euros.

21 January 1910
HISTORY IN PICTURES

A POLITICAL ADDICTION

China’s long and passionate affair with opium dates back to the 7th century, when it was first used as medicine. In the 17th century, it was mixed with tobacco and began to be smoked recreationally. Seeing an opportunity, the East India Company pushed production up a gear. When the emperor ordered an end to the imports, the British declared war. They won, and it wasn’t until the 1950s that China finally got a hold on the country’s addiction.

c. 1900
A monk sets himself alight in reaction to the Southern Vietnamese government's oppression of Buddhists.

Join the masses through history who have made their voices heard.

The Jacobite risings sought to restore a Stuart king back to the throne of Britain.

Millions take to the streets in opposition to the Iraq War.
A small act of defiance helps to spark the USA’s Civil Rights Movement in the 1950s.

The Liberal Democrats’ broken promises provoke outrage across the British Isles.

Members of the Gunpowder Plot conspire to bring down the houses of parliament and kill the king. James I and VI, with a fiery explosion.

The fight for the women’s vote was led by figures like Emmeline Pankhurst.

It took years of activism and protest for South Africa to end Apartheid.

With more than 1.25 million supporters, the Chartist movement was the first mass movement driven by the UK working classes.
Protest across history

PEASANTS’ REVOLT
BRITAIN 30 MAY 1381 – NOVEMBER 1381
Feudal 14th-century Britain was, of course, a very different place to today, but the basic market rules of supply and demand still prevailed — and in the wake of the Black Death, they were set to be put to the test. The plague had hit the peasant population hard, and so these serfs were in short supply, meaning they could ask more from their superiors — like a reduction in their taxes. A mob led by an individual known as Wat Tyler descended upon London to protest. After two days of violence and demonstrations, Richard II met with the mob and mollified them by agreeing to their demands. A militia was raised, but in the meantime Tyler was killed and the king reneged on the deal. This was just the beginning of the end of the Medieval model of government.

Protest timeline

Protestant Reformation
While the revolution to come will see millions die and after the political map, this protest begins with a list of Catholic abuses penned by Martin Luther who many say nailed his work to the door of a German church. 1517

The Battle of Central Station
With poor camp conditions and the following news that their training session will be extended to a 27-hour stretch, 5,000 soldiers go on strike, seizing control of Sydney’s Liverpool train station. 14 February 1916

South Africa Freedom Day
With Nelson Mandela at its head, the ANC party encourages South Africans to down tools and “stay at home” in protest of a bill that allows the government to ban any political party it deems as communistic. 26 June 1950

The Troubles
Violent conflict in Northern Ireland between sectarians and the British government has existed for decades, but by far the worst ends with the Good Friday Agreement in 1998. 1968-98

The Stonewall Inn riots
Following the city’s closure of the New York lesbian and gay bar in a crackdown on “immoral” homosexual activity, Greenwich Village experiences several days of violent protest. 28 June 1969

Chartist movement
The working classes of Britain demand a say in the law-making of the land and so, through numerous mass protests, the Reform Act of 1867 is a major step forward. 1838-67

The Rebecca riots
Sick of crippling taxation, poverty-stricken farmers and workers in Wales rise to attack and destroy the numerous toll gates along the roads that lead to market. 1839-43

Salt March
Mahatma Gandhi organises a 24-day march to coastal Dandi, India, in a peaceful but powerful protest against British-imposed salt taxes on the colony. 12 March 1930

In bed for peace
While most US anti-Vietnam war protestors embarked on nonviolent marches, John Lennon and Yoko Ono take the nonviolent concept a step further by staying in bed for a week. 25-31 March 1969

This diagram shows where Rosa Parks was when she refused to give up her seat.

The death of Emily Wilding Davison
ENGLAND 16 JUNE 1913
Women’s right to vote and the Suffragette movement was in full swing by 1913, and Emily Wilding Davison was one of its most active protesters. At the Epsom Derby, Davison ran onto the race track and attempted to either attach a scarf to the horse’s bridle or deliberately throw herself under the hooves of King George V’s horse, Anmer. This was undoubtedly intended to be a statement for Women’s Suffrage, but it ended in tragedy. The horse hit her and collapsed, trampling her in the process. She died four days later.

Montgomery Bus Boycott
USA 1 DECEMBER 1955 – 20 DECEMBER 1956
As the civil rights movement entered its peak in post-war USA, Rosa Parks had had enough. When bus driver James Blake asked her to vacate a seat at the front for a white passenger, she refused. He gave her a warning, as per bus company regulations, and when told by his supervisor that he had to “put her off”, he had her arrested and she was fined $10 with $4 court costs. She appealed and then followed a 13-month protest, resulting in a court case that abolished segregation in Montgomery county, Alabama. These were seemingly small but significant steps towards the Civil Rights Acts of the 1960s that outlawed discrimination based on race, religion or gender.

Tea drinking was boycotted across America in 1774 in reaction to the Boston Tea Party.
**Black Power salute**

When American athletes Tommie Smith and John Carlos won the gold and bronze medals in the 200-metre sprint at the Summer Olympics in Mexico, Smith’s record-breaking time would fade into the shadow of the simple gesture made as the two received their medal. They walked shoeless and wearing black socks to the podium to represent black poverty, and when The Star-Spangled Banner played, the two bowed their heads and raised a black-gloved fist. This statement, made powerful by its international stage, sent ripples beyond the Olympics.

**Protest**

**Iranian Muharram protests**
Shahyad Square in Tehran sees more than 2 million people unite to demand the overthrow of Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi. A month later, he steps down. 2 December 1978

**Make Love Not War**
Huge crowds of about 500,000 march into Washington, DC and San Francisco in an anti-Vietnam War demonstration. 15 November 1969

**Tiananmen Square Protests**
China 15 April - 4 June 1989
Following the death of the liberal General Secretary Hu Yaobang, and after a month of pro-democracy protesting led by Chinese students, Communist party hardliners had reached their limit. The top brass ordered martial law and sent 300,000 troops to Beijing. On 3 June, state television told citizens to remain in their homes but many ventured outside to block the advancement of the army anyway. Chinese troops fired on their own people. When the army made it to Tiananmen Square, they faced more protestors. Official Chinese estimates put the number of dead in the hundreds, though many more than that is likely.

**Fall of the Berlin Wall**
Germany 11 November 1989
Ironically, it was a miscommunication that ultimately brought down the wall. In the late 1980s, and with refugees fleeing in their thousands from the oppressive East German regime via Hungary, Communist party leaders rushed through new legislation that allowed for limited crossing from East into West Germany. This was effectively understood as open borders for everyone, and East Germans led a stampede on the wall. Unwilling to use lethal force and unable to control the huge crowds, the checkpoints were opened. Shortly after, demolition of this reviled symbol of Soviet oppression began in earnest.

**Soweto School Uprising**
South Africa 16 June 1976
The chokehold of Black African oppression was tightened further in 1976 when the National Party passed a law where most subjects would be taught in English and Afrikaans, while indigenous languages were outlawed for all but religious education, music, and PE. 102,000 black students rallied against this legislation by marching out of their schools to a demonstration at Orlando Stadium. Police were mobilised. Violence broke out, a young student was shot dead, and it escalated from there. Hundreds were killed; thousands were wounded.

**Poll Tax riots**
The UK Conservative government’s controversial new tax is immensely unpopular: national riots contribute to the resignation of Prime Minister Thatcher and the abolition of the tax. 31 March 1990

**The Orange Revolution**
With allegations of corruption and voting-fixing tainting the Ukrainian national elections, hundreds of thousands of people demonstrate until a re-vote is called. 22 November 2004 - 23 January 2005

**The annexation of Crimea**
By early 2014, there is growing support for a Russian intervention to support the corrupt politicians who hold the power in Ukraine. The Crimeans threaten to split and when Putin’s tanks roll in, they do. 1 March 2014

**A Russian warship anchors in the strategically vital port of Sevastopol, Crimea**

**The Chinese government has long been banned discussion and remembrance of the events of spring 1989**

**The Red Wedge**
Facing the abhorrent possibility of a third consecutive Conservative government, a group of musicians tour the UK promoting Labour party policies. It’s name riffs off a communist revolutionary poster. 1987

**Iraq War protests**
Despite 1 million British people protesting the invasion of Iraq in the UK alone, the invasion begins in earnest a month later. 15 February 2003

**Fatal shooting sparks Greek riots**
In late 2011, a student is shot by police during a dispute; this provokes demonstrations around the world. December 2008

**The Ferguson riots**
After the shooting of Michael Brown, an unarmed African American man, by a while Missouri police officer, two riots break out. 9 August 2014

**UK miners’ strike**
At its peak, Britain’s most bitter strike pitches 242,000 coal miners against Margaret Thatcher’s pay cuts and pit closures. The unions lose. 6 March 1984

**The Chinese government has long been banned discussion and remembrance of the events of spring 1989**

**Police fire teargas and live bullets into crowds of marching schoolchildren**
How to GO ON STRIKE

There were several miners’ strikes in the UK during the 20th century, but none were as prominent as the discontent shown in 1984-85. Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was intent on privatising the long-time nationalised coal industry, resulting in one of the largest industrial disputes in British history. Led by Trade Unionist Arthur Scargill, members of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) fought hard to prevent the closure of pits and losses of jobs after a period of steady decline throughout the previous decade. Over the next few months, violent clashes took place between police and striking miners as both sides refused to back down.

STRIKING GEAR

Coal not dole
Obviously you can shout loudly to get your message across, but a catchy placard works just as well.

Stickers
Show your support and tell people who you are and what you stand for with union stickers and badges.

Wrap up warm
Protesting can take a long time, so pack your anorak and your woollen jumper for winter-time and evening marches.

Power in numbers
The bigger the group the louder your collective voice, so act and march as one for your best chance of success.

WHAT YOU’LL NEED

- Megaphone
- Catchy slogan
- Coal not dole
- Protest placard
- Snacks

01 Hold a ballot
Before the strike can officially get off the ground, it needs to start (and continue to be) on the right side of the law. For a strike to be legal, a ballot must be held, with a clear majority voting for the strike to happen. The employers must also be given a week’s notice before the start of the ballot and told the results as soon as possible.

02 Take to the streets
Many of your peers will have similar views to you, so it shouldn’t be too difficult to persuade them to join up. If you are striking for economic reasons, contact similar groups and unions in and around the local communities who could well be seeking the same goals as you. Getting the regional or even national media on your side would be a bonus.
How not to... strike

Although strikes are often successful, some can have little or no effect, or can even make things worse for workers. The 1842 General Strike was initiated by miners after a 3.25 million-signature Chartist petition was snubbed by the House of Commons. The resulting strike took place in the industrial districts of the Midlands and spread to Lancashire, Yorkshire and Scotland.

The Prime Minister, Sir Robert Peel, advocated non-intervention, but the Duke of Wellington (of Waterloo fame) favoured sending in the army. The troops were dispatched and Chartist leaders were arrested. 1,500 were detained, and of these 79 were found guilty and sentenced to 21 years’ exile in one of the empire’s penal colonies. Men were also shot in several striking cities across the country. With the arrest of the leaders, the striking and rioting subsided. The 1842 General Strike was a show of working class strength but did little to change the status quo.

Join the picket lines

Naturally, not everyone will want to strike, but there is a chance they can still be convinced. Before taking the fight to London, gather outside as many pits as possible to try and win over other miners. Start by trying to persuade them with reason and incentives, but if it comes to it, intimidation is also a weapon that can be used to good effect.

Avoid arrest

If you’re arrested, the game is up. Clashes with the police can get violent, so it’s best to avoid confrontation. The police force has more resources at its disposal, and acts of violence could alienate some of your supporters. Getting thrown in jail can help gain sympathy to your cause, but you can’t stand on the picket line when under lock and key.

Fundraise

As the strike goes on, it is important to maintain the legality of your actions as well as finance your time away from the pits. At first the unions can help cover the costs of striking, but as time goes on, expenditure may become too much and each striker may have to dip into their own pockets to carry on.

Keep the faith

It’s imperative you continue to galvanise your followers. If everything isn’t quite going to plan or is taking longer than expected, many supporters can lose faith in the strike leadership and even make their unhappiness heard vocally. Conversely, it is important to know when a battle is lost. Cut your losses and you may return another day to win the war.

4 FAMOUS... STRIKERS

ARTHUR SCARGILL
1938-PRESENT, UK

The president of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) organised and led the miners’ strikes in the 1970s and 1980s.

ELLEN WILKINSON
1891-1947, UK

A Labour politician, Wilkinson was a former suffragist who participated in the 1926 general strike and the Jarrow Crusade.

PATRIC VERRONE
1959-PRESENT, USA

A popular animated television writer, Verrone served as leader of the Writer’s Guild of America West during the 2007-08 writers’ strike.

GEORGE FERNANDES
1930-PRESENT, INDIA

Fernandes led over a million workers in the All India Railway Men’s Federation strike, which lasted for 20 days.
Hall of Fame

REBELS WITH A CAUSE

Throughout history, there have been those who have dared to get up and stand up for not only their rights, but for others. Here, we take a look at ten such individuals.

MUHAMMAD ALI
AMERICAN 1942-PRESENT

Until then best known as the World Heavyweight Boxing Champion, Muhammad Ali became just as well remembered for his civil disobedience when he refused to join the US army in Vietnam after his draft number was called. He said: "Why should they ask me to put on a uniform and go ten thousand miles from home and drop bombs and bullets on brown people in Vietnam while so-called Negro people in Louisville are treated like dogs and denied simple human rights?" In the uproar that followed, he was stripped of his title and sentenced to five years in prison.

EMMELINE PANKHURST
BRITISH 1858-1928

A lifelong supporter of women’s right to vote, Emmeline Pankhurst’s more forward activities began in 1889 when she founded the Women’s Franchise League, followed by the Women’s Social and Political Union (WSPU), which militantly campaigned for the right to vote. While the suffragettes were treated in a heavy-handed manner by police, often being arrested and force-fed, Pankhurst also advocated the use of tactics such as arson and vandalism in certain scenarios. In any case, after turning her attentions to supporting the war effort in the wake of World War I, she lived long enough to see women granted equal voting rights with men in 1928.

UNKNOWN PROTESTER
CHINESE UNKNOWN

Also known as ‘Tank Man’, the Unknown Protester became a symbol of Chinese rebellion in the wake of the violent crackdown on the Tiananmen Square protests of June 1989 by standing in front of a line of tanks, barring their path. After a standoff - during which he climbed on the tank and appeared to converse with the driver - he was dragged off into a crowd by various officials. His identity has never been confirmed - some sources named him as a student called Wang Wellin, although again this has never been proven - but his iconic status remains undiminished nonetheless.

BOB MARLEY
JAMAICAN 1945-81

One of the most popular musicians of all time, the music of Bob Marley has transcended generations not just because of his widespread appeal, but because of the sentiment generated by his assorted political protest songs. Marley made music about topics such as crime, racism and slavery, informed by his Rastafari beliefs. Some of his best remembered anthems include Get Up, Stand Up, I Shot The Sheriff, Concrete Jungle and Smirnoff Down. The sentiment generated by his music inspired people worldwide, and even after his death his music continues to be relevant today.
TOMMIE SMITH
AMERICAN 1944-PRESENT
Along with fellow athlete John Carlos, Tommie Smith hit the headlines at the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico after staging a silent protest at the treatment of black people in the form of a black power salute on the podium. Justifying his actions, Smith said: “If I win I am an American, not a black American. But if I did something bad then they would say ‘a Negro’. We are black and we are proud of being black.”

MALALA YOUSAFZAI
PAKISTANI 1997-PRESENT
Having spent much of her life speaking out in favour of women’s right to education - encouraged by her father, who formerly ran a school - Yousafzai hit the headlines in 2012 when aged just 15 she was shot in the head by a Taliban gunman. After recovering from her wounds in a British hospital, she continued to speak out, which combined with the worldwide outrage at the attack, led to the passing of Pakistan’s first Right To Free And Compulsory Education bill in 2013. She continues her work today, and was recognised in 2014 in the form of the Nobel Peace Prize.

HENRY THOREAU
AMERICAN 1817-62
A philosopher, poet and writer, Thoreau is perhaps best remembered for his essays advocating the process of civil disobedience, informed by his opposition to slavery and poll taxes, the latter of which he was arrested for avoiding in 1846. His ‘Civil Disobedience’ papers, which criticised government expenditure, proved to be a much-read text, and while he didn’t change policy himself, he did go on to influence the likes of Leo Tolstoy, Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King.

VEDRAN SMAILOVIĆ
BOSNIAN 1958-PRESENT
Popularly referred to as the ‘Cellist of Sarajevo’, Smailović became iconic around the world for continuing to play his music during the upheaval of the Siege of Sarajevo from 1992-96. He performed in bombed-out buildings and at funerals, which were regularly targeted by snipers. When asked why he did it, he replied: “You ask am I crazy for playing the cello, why do you not ask if they are not crazy for shelling Sarajevo?”

“One child, one teacher, one pen and one book can change the world” Malala Yousafzai

STEVE BIKE
SOUTH AFRICAN 1946-77
The leader of the Black Consciousness Movement in South Africa, Biko became a martyr after dying in police custody following a seven-day hunger strike. Many blamed police brutality for his sudden death. Seen by many as second only to Nelson Mandela in his contributions to anti-apartheid campaigning, he began working full time for the Black Community Programmes in 1972, and also set up various community groups aimed at helping political prisoners.

IDA B WELLS
AMERICAN 1862-1931
A lifelong campaigner in favour of suffrage and civil rights, Wells is also remembered for publicising the various lynchings that often went on against black people. She highlighted that many of the acts were committed not because of any crime (as the perpetrators often alleged), but for reasons as petty as being involved in competing businesses. She also set up numerous women’s rights groups, and travelled the country making speeches on the subject.

“During her activism, Wells wrote the book Southern Horrors: Lynch Law In All Its Phases”
PICKET SIGNS

A SIGN OF THE TIMES
Protesters used strong, powerful messages on their picket signs to take a stance against the Vietnam War. Messages on signs ranged from the peaceful ‘make love, not war’ to much more provocative and controversial ideas, such as comparing President Nixon to Hitler.

HELMETS

TACKLING THE WAR HEAD ON
The iconic soldier’s helmet was worn by actress Jane Fonda as she visited troops in Vietnam. However, the visit stirred controversy as she sang anti-war songs with troops, but later the Vietnam Veterans Against War movement saw thousands of ex-soldiers uniting against the conflict.

BOX OF MATCHES

DRAFT BEER, NOT BOYS
Despite more than 50 per cent of Americans opposing the war in Vietnam, the government reintroduced conscription, known as the draft. From 1964, students and protesters carried match boxes with them for burning draft cards in response to the unfair and flawed conscription for such an unpopular war.

DRUGS

DROP ACID, NOT BOMBS
It wasn’t just a passion for politics that protesters became associated with. Alongside their anti-war stance, drugs were a big part of the hippie culture. Legal until the mid-1960s in the USA, some protesters took LSD as a means of escaping the reality of war.

BOOTS

MARCHING FOR PEACE
Protesters spent plenty of time marching and parading against the conflict and its inequalities, so a sturdy pair of boots was essential. In fact, one of the largest anti-war demonstrations was held on 15 November 1969 in Washington, D.C. with more than half a million protesters campaigning against involvement in Vietnam.

THE Anatomy of A VIETNAM WAR PROTESTER

USA, 1955-75

BUTTONS AND BADGES

PROTESTERS ENGAGED IN POLITICS
Young and open minded, many protesters were politically engaged students. Badges and buttons were the easiest way to show their affiliation with movements, such as the Resistance, Greenpeace and the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament.

FLOWERS

FLOWERS VERSUS GUNS
Taking a passive stance while protesting against the conflict, demonstrators armed themselves with flower power to fight the government’s brutality. At marches, protesters would carry flowers, placing them in soldiers’ gun barrels and wrapping themselves in daisy chains.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

MUSIC MAKES THE WORLD GO ROUND
The 1960s and 1970s witnessed an unprecedented music revival, with the likes of The Beatles and Bob Dylan advocating pacifism. Protesters united over music, with anti-war folk singers often performing at rallies. As these sentiments grew, music became more aggressive, and rock took over from folk as the music of protest.
The Desert Rats’ Cromwell

A vehicle made famous by the British 7th Armoured Division, who had been dubbed the Desert Rats for their exploits in North Africa. However, the 7th Armoured were not issued with Cromwells until 1944, when they returned to the U.K. to prepare for D-Day. They fought in their Cromwells across France and into Germany, and eventually took part in the Victory Parade on September 7, 1945, in Berlin.

Development for the Cromwell first began in 1940 when the General Staff knew the Crusader would soon become obsolete. The tank was the fastest British tank to serve in the war, with a top speed of 40 mph (64 km/h). Its dual-purpose 75 mm main gun had HE and armour-piercing capabilities and its armour ranged from 8 mm up to 76 mm overall.

In World of Tanks, you can command the Cromwell from the driver’s seat. World of Tanks is an online PC game dedicated to tank warfare in the mid-20th century, with over 300 of history’s most iconic tanks. A variety of tiers, upgrades, equipment, and decals allow you to make each tank, your progression and your gameplay experience unique.

Play For Free at Worldoftanks.eu
Mohandas 'Mahatma' Gandhi led India to independence from British rule through a series of nonviolent protests. One of the most famous was the Salt March, which took place between March and April 1930 in reaction to the British salt tax, which prevented Indians from producing or selling this popular commodity independently. Gandhi and a band of followers marched 240 miles to the coastal village of Dandi, Gujarat, in order to make salt without paying tax. This sparked large-scale acts of civil disobedience by millions of Indians, and eventually resulted in Gandhi's imprisonment.

**WRITE LETTERS**
For Gandhi's message to be heard, the march had to grab the attention of the British government. Before setting off, he wrote a letter to the viceroy of India promising to call off the protest if he agreed to a number of concessions. These included the abolition of the salt tax and general tax reduction. Gandhi's letter was ignored and the viceroy refused to meet him, so the march went on.

**SETTING OUT**
After making an inspirational speech to his followers and saying a prayer, Gandhi set the march in motion. The journey was long and arduous, lasting 24 days in total, but the possibility of reducing taxes and producing their own salt at the end kept the marchers trudging on.

**VILLAGE STOP OFF**
The march gave Gandhi the opportunity to spread his message not only to the British, but also across India. Scouts were sent out to villages ahead of the march so that Gandhi could plan his talks based on the needs of the residents. He would promote personal hygiene and teetotalism, while dismissing child marriage and inequality in society.
DODGE OFFICIALS
Gandhi prepared himself and his followers for arrest, but it never came. There was no significant British presence on the march until after it had been completed. As a result, Gandhi's 'satyagraha' nonviolent resistance continued on, and it became so effective that it rallied Indians from all across the subcontinent to the cause, including those of Hindu, Muslim and Sikh backgrounds.

KEEP ON WALKING
Gandhi and his followers would travel approximately 12 miles each day. To keep spirits high, the marchers sang traditional Hindu 'bhajans'. The amount of walking meant packing light was the order of the day. Each man would only carry a bedroll, a change of clothes, a takli spindle, a journal and a drinking mug.

AVOID FATIGUE
While the elderly Gandhi endured the long journey by using a bamboo staff to help him walk, many dropped out along the way due to fatigue. It was therefore important for the procession to take breaks regularly, during which time they would pray or spin cotton. Everyone was required to keep a diary of the march.

GATHER STATISTICS
When arriving in each village, Gandhi would collect information about the conditions of the local population. These statistics would then be sent on to Congress and letters were written to local papers. Vast media coverage helped raise awareness of the Indians' plight to the worldwide community.

REST UP
After each day's marching, Gandhi and his followers would get some rest in the nearest village. Rather than stay with the high-caste reception committee, he instead chose to eat and wash with 'untouchables' - people of low caste. In a few villages this caused upset, but in others it was accepted. Before bedtime, crowds would gather and listen to Gandhi speak out against the inequality of Indian taxation. His inspirational words would only spur more people to join the cause, and by the end of the march the procession was two miles long.
STORMING OF THE BASTILLE

THE REVOLT THAT KICK-STARTED A REVOLUTION, FRANCE, 14 JULY 1789

It was a warm summer’s day in the city, but the people of Paris were not happy. Inequality reigned supreme, and while the royal family were enjoying eight-course meals, the poor struggled to afford a loaf of bread. To make matters worse, King Louis XVI had recently introduced a new taxation system that threatened to leave them penniless. A new National Assembly had been formed to represent the commoners in the debate over tax, but on 12 July, they received news that the king had dismissed their beloved finance minister, Jacques Necker, for being too sympathetic to their cause. For the Parisians, this sent a clear message: that he would soon dismantle the assembly and destroy their chances of creating a more equal society.

Waves of angry citizens spilled out onto the streets. The Royal Army struggled to control the raging crowds, and many of the city’s armories were plundered. From here on, they decided, the battle for equality would have to be fought with weapons. But the rioters lacked an important resource: gunpowder. The city’s supply was kept in the Bastille, a fortress that for hundreds of years had been used as a place of torture, imprisonment and execution without trial. It was a symbol of everything that was wrong with the monarchy, and that made it the perfect target for a siege.

The Bastille
The fortress was built in the 14th century to defend the city from English forces in the Hundred Years’ War. It was declared a state prison in 1417, after which it became a den of torture and death and a symbol of feudal rule.

Revolutionaries
There were 954 Vainqueurs de la Bastille in total, who gathered outside the Bastille on the morning of 14 July 1789. They demanded that the prison be surrendered, the guns removed, and the arms and gunpowder released.

Guillotine
It was on this day that the first beheading of the revolution took place. The victim was Marquis de Launay, the governor of the Bastille, who was stabbed and shot before having his head sawn off and paraded on a pike. Later that year, physician Joseph-Ignace Guillotin proposed that beheading become the official method of execution in France, with a device called a ‘guillotine’ used to ensure a humane death.
**The events**
Two revolutionaries were invited into the fortress to negotiate, but by 1.30pm, the crowd had grown impatient. They surged into the undefended outer courtyard and the chains on the drawbridge were cut, crushing a vaillant as it fell. By 5.30pm, the castle had been surrendered, at the cost of 98 revolutionary lives.

**Inside the prison**
When it was stormed by the Parisians, the Bastille had only seven inmates, but more than 13,000 kilograms of gunpowder to plunder. After the siege, the revolutionaries tore down the prison walls and sold the bricks as emblems of the revolution.

**The French Guard**
The prison's regular garrison consisted of 82 invalides (veterans no longer suitable for service in the field), but it had been reinforced the previous week with 32 grenadiers of the Swiss Saiss-Samade regiment. They were armed with 18 eight-pound guns and 12 smaller pieces. As the siege went on, two detachments of the French Guard defected and joined the people, bringing two cannons with them.

**The Tricolore**
While depictions of the Storming of the Bastille often show revolutionaries waving the blue, white and red flag of France, this is historically inaccurate. The Paris militia wore cockades of red and blue - the colours of the city's coat of arms - and the white was added on 27 July to 'nationalise' the design.
5 things you probably didn’t know about...

THE BOSTON TEA PARTY

A DISAGREEMENT OVER A BEVERAGE THAT HELPED SOW THE SEEDS FOR REVOLUTION BOSTON, BRITISH AMERICA, 16 DECEMBER 1773

01 Nothing was damaged (except for the tea)
342 chests of tea worth about £9,659 were chucked overboard, but the ships themselves were left untouched. Nothing was looted and the decks of the ships were even swept clean and tidied after the protest. The only thing broken was one small padlock, which was promptly replaced the next day.

02 The destroyed tea could have brewed more than 18,000,000 cups
So much tea was dumped into the harbour that it began to smell, badly. This made it easy for the British to locate the targeted ships, Dartmouth, Eleanor and Beaver. The ships were actually owned by Americans, with only the precious cargo belonging to the British.

03 They didn’t wear Native American headdresses
Many images portray the Sons of Liberty as wearing full authentic native dress, but they were actually dressed in woollen matchcoat-style blankets and had their faces painted with soot. This was an effort to look like the Native Americans who had fought during the recent French and Indian War.

04 Some of the protestors’ identities are still unknown
More than 100 people participated in the protest but their identities were shrouded in secrecy after they fled Boston immediately to avoid arrest. Founder of the Sons of Liberty Samuel Adams, as well as many other men, have been named, but we still don’t know who all the people involved were.

05 George Washington condemned it
The future leader of the Patriots disapproved of the Tea Party and believed the East India Company should have been compensated for the damages. However, there was a more positive reaction to the event from the American people, and a second party took place in March 1774 when 30 more chests were sent overboard.
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Photo from ‘Denim: Fashion’s Frontier’, repurposed denim dress by Junya Watanabe.

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Lost kingdoms of the Vikings
Often portrayed as bloodthirsty raiders, the Vikings were a civilisation that travelled to more of the Early Medieval world than anyone else. Originating from Scandinavia, they branched out into mainland Europe to find food, land and riches, establishing kingdoms across the known world. For hundreds of years a fleet of longships on the horizon struck fear into the hearts of European peoples like the Franks, Saxons and Byzantines. The men from the north were traders as well as raiders, though, and commerce helped fund their lengthy expeditions. Bringing with them fur, wool and whalebone, they traded their goods for silver, silk and spices, which they then sold on. To trade or raid? It all hinged on the best way to make profit.

The Vikings are perhaps most famous for their attacks on the British Isles, the forced establishment of the Danelaw and battles against Alfred the Great. However, they sailed their longships all across Europe and ruled over many diverse lands. They even made forays into parts of Asia, America and Africa. From Newfoundland in the west to Kiev in the east, the Norsemen braved treacherous oceans and faced deadly adversaries. They may have seemed like savages, but it’s the Norsemen we have to thank for the establishment and development of many of the European kingdoms that flourished after their decline.
For more than 200 years the Vikings exerted influence over vast swathes of the Emerald Isle.

Norwegian Norsemen first appeared in Ireland at the end of the 8th century with a hit-and-run attack on a monastery on either Rathlin or Lambay Island. These sporadic coastal attacks continued for 30 years, and despite later spreading to the mainland, actually had no great effect on the Irish settlements that would rebuild during the hills in fighting. At this stage, the marauders were content with staging assaults that lasted no longer than a few days before returning to Scandinavia to sell their spoils. At the start of the next century, however, the Vikings grew in confidence and the pillaging intensified. Ship enclosures (known as longphorts) were established in Dublin, and these fixed positions allowed the raiders to ravage the countryside at will. It wasn’t long until Irish kings had had enough. The king of Tara, Mael Sechnaill, took the fight back to the Vikings, and near Skerne in County Meath, killed no less than 700 Nordic raiders.

The increase in assaults had a profound effect on the Celtic-Irish society for more than two centuries. Norse-Irish alliances became common, but by the start of the 10th century, Vikings from Denmark were added to the mix. To differentiate, Vikings from Norway were known as the ‘Lochlainn’ and the Danish Norsemen as the ‘Danair’. The Viking success on the British Isles only increased the number of attacks, and in the years leading up to 1000, they tactically used their longships to travel up rivers and attack further inland. The Norwegians dominated initially, financed by all the monasteries they plundered, but the disorganised nature of their attacks meant the Danes’ power base grew steadily.

On the Irish side, one man rose above the others, the king of Munster, Brian Boru. With his support base in the southern kingdom, Brian assembled a unified confederate army, which imposed itself as the major force in the region. The army destroyed Dublin’s fortress, allied with many of the Viking leaders and was even powerful enough to expel several Norse clans from Ireland entirely. Brian claimed kingship in league with the Dublin Norse, and no one dared challenge him. His supremacy lasted until 1012, when a series of intense Viking attacks culminated in the critical Battle of Clontarf in 1014.

Taking place on 23 April, Clontarf was a battle between the majority of the Irish kingdoms led by Brian against Vikings supported by Mael Morda, the king of Leinster, who had switched allegiances after a dispute. Brian had approximately 7000 troops at his disposal, and they marched to Dublin to engage 4000 Leinster men and 3000 Norsemen who had landed on the shoreline at sunrise. As the armies brawled, Morda’s men scored an early advantage as their vicious Viking centre proved devastatingly effective. The pendulum swung in the other direction, however, when the Viking champions Brodir and Sigurd were defeated. As afternoon came, Brian’s men managed to cut off the Viking access to their longships. This was a critical blow to Morda’s forces, who began to flee towards the one bridge over the nearby River Liffey to safety. As they tried to escape, the returning Mael Sechnaill and his men emerged and cut off access to the bridge. The Vikings and the Leinster men were now trapped and subsequently routed.

The battle was the bloodiest single conflict in ancient Irish history; Brian lay dead in the mud with 4000 of his own men and, crucially, 6000 Leinster men and Vikings lay slaughtered alongside them. The battle resulted in the end of a period of great turmoil in Ireland and initiated a time of relative peace in which the Irish and the remaining Vikings lived together. The Norsemen who stayed in Ireland were absorbed into Irish culture and started to intermarry. The Danish kingdom of Dublin had stood for more than 200 years prior to Clontarf, but just 52 years later, Harald Hardrada would lose at Stamford Bridge and the great Viking age of the British Isles would be over.

The theories behind the Viking expansion

- **Exhausted farmland**
  - Scandinavia has a variety of landscapes but none were ideal for farming. Norway was too mountainous, Sweden had extensive forests while Denmark could be too sandy.

- **Desire for treasure**
  - Searching far-off lands for plunder is something the Vikings became associated with.
  - Raids were carried out overseas and a settlement would be built to cement their claim to the loot.

- **Overcrowding**
  - As the Viking population swelled, many sought to move elsewhere.
  - The eldest son inherited family lands, so younger brothers would venture in search of territory to call their own.

- **Wanderlust**
  - A sense of adventure was a common Viking trait. Even when the treasure dried up, the Norsemen were keen to seek out new lands in far-off places like America and Constantinople.

- **New trade routes**
  - The popularity of Christianity meant that many of the nearby Christian kingdoms refused to trade. As a result, the pagan Vikings would either invade the lands or look elsewhere for trade.
The Norse raiders initially concentrated their attacks on monasteries as this was the best chance of gaining the priciest plunder.

At Clontarf, the Vikings amassed allies from both the Orkneys and the Isle of Man, but the reinforcements were not enough for victory.

**Norse words that invaded the English language**

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Lost Kingdoms of the Vikings

North America

With parts of Northern Europe ransacked, the Vikings turned their attention to the other side of the Atlantic

The true extent of the Viking presence on North America is hotly debated, but it will always be one of the greatest achievements of maritime exploration. After the Norse Vikings populated Iceland in about 870, Greenland was next to follow, with its conquest instigated in the 980s by the notorious Erik the Red. The rough seas of the Atlantic were much tougher than the Vikings had previously experienced on the North Sea. To combat the difficult conditions, the Norse mariners used a type of ship known as a knarr. Larger than the standard longship, it could carry much more cargo and would stand up to whatever the Atlantic had to throw at it. This allowed for longer and more fruitful journeys. By 1150, 72,000 Norsemen were living in Iceland while 5,000 resided in Greenland.

The adventurous continued, and the first Viking sightings of North America came in about 985, when Icelander Bjarni Herjólfsson spotted uncharted land after being blown off course on his way to Greenland. The stories of a new land encouraged others to seek it out. In about 1000, Leif Eriksson, the son of Erik the Red, was the first to set foot on this unexplored territory. Eriksson and his 33-man crew may have been sent by Norwegian king Olaf I to spread Christianity (Olaf was one of the first Vikings to preach the ideas of the religion) and discovered three places around the Gulf of Saint Lawrence. Eriksson named them Helluland (land of flat rocks), Markland (land of forest and timber) and Vinland (land of warmth and vine). We know them today as Baffin Island, the Labrador coast and Newfoundland.

After this initial excursion, the westward journeys only continued. The most extensive voyage was undertaken by Thorfinn Karlsfri, who intended to settle in this new found land for good, taking more than 100 men and women as well as tools, weapons and farm animals on his expedition. His wife gave birth to the first child from the old world to be born in the new. As more Vikings made the journey, it was inevitable they would make contact with the native population. Norse men and women called the natives Skraelingjar and became trading partners, benefiting from the fur given to them by the locals. The Skraelingjar were a pre-Iron Age civilisation and most likely the ancestors of the modern Inuit. They were given their first taste of iron weaponry and tools by those visitors from across the sea.

The settlements built by the Vikings in North America consisted of sod walls with peaked timber roofs. The most prominent settlement, and what is seen as proof of Viking occupation, is L’Anse aux Meadows. Located on the northern tip of Vinland, the area is believed to have been home to about 75 people and would have probably acted as a base camp for repairing ships. After approximately two or three years of attempted colonisation, the Skraelingjar began to see the Vikings as a threat and unrest broke out. As a result of the violence, trade visits were no longer a worthwhile venture. Viking activity in North America was dramatically reduced, as the settlements in Greenland could no longer support further trade missions that lost both men and valuable resources. Greenland wasn’t a fully functioning Norse colony, and these less than favourable economic conditions made journeys to North America more and more difficult.

The Viking failure to colonise the Americas on a long-term basis was due to both natural hazards and native resistance, but also confirmed the limitations of nautical conquest in the early Middle Ages. The distance from Greenland to Vinland is about 3,500 kilometres, which was a tough journey for any Medieval vessel, and the small population didn’t have the manpower to overpower the natives. They may have discovered North America 500 years before Columbus, but the Vikings were unable to sustain a stable colony in the New World.
What became of Vinland?

Expert blo: Dr. Alex Saemik is reader in Medieval Archaeology at the Centre for Nordic Studies, University of the Highlands and Islands. She specialises in various aspects of the Viking Age, from religion to law and gender, both in Scandinavia and the Norse settlements in the north Atlantic.

Why did the Vikings survive hundreds of years in Greenland but could not establish themselves in Vinland, with its richer resources and better climate?
The settlement at L’Anse aux Meadows was probably never intended to be permanent, but rather a base for resources, such as wood, which they could not get in Greenland. The Vikings seem to have stayed there for short periods of time as the number of Norse in Greenland was never very large, and setting up a new colony would have required a substantial group of people to be successful. Also, L’Anse aux Meadows was not a very useful area for resources that were unavailable in Greenland, for these the Vikings had to travel quite far inland. The journey between Greenland and Canada was long and could take up to a month, which of course made regular journeys between the two areas difficult. It may be, although there is no evidence to prove this, that the relationship with the natives was so difficult that the settlement was abandoned.

How important is L’Anse aux Meadows to our understanding of Viking settlements in the New World?
It is hugely important because it is the only Viking settlement in the New World. There are other types of archaeological evidence though. Two Icelandic sagas, for instance, tell us about the Vikings sailing to Vinland from Greenland and Iceland. This has, of course, spurred people’s imagination, and many have been looking for evidence of Viking presence a lot further south, especially in the US. Others have faked the evidence by producing their own runic inscriptions. The Viking settlement of the New World is an important political issue for some who are keen to show that ‘Europeans’ were there from early on. The sagas are highly problematic as sources as they are very late, dating from the 13th century onwards, and they are also literature, meaning that they don’t necessarily tell us exactly what happened. We can’t rely on them for evidence, so this settlement is of great importance.

The settlement at L’Anse aux Meadows was probably never intended to be permanent, but rather a base for resources.

Are there any similar Viking settlements to L’Anse aux Meadows in the Americas?
No, but a possible Viking camp has been identified on Baffin Island in recent years. There is also an increasing amount of archaeological evidence from Canada that shows that the Vikings were there and traded with the natives. It is possible that established trading networks were in place and the Vikings may well have travelled a lot further inland than previously thought. Viking presence is above all traced through artefacts that the native people did not have, such as finds of metal, strike-a-light and woolen cloth. These finds are important as they point to friendly interactions, which is not always the image provided by the written sources.

What were relations with the Native Americans like?
We don’t know very much about this. The sagas tell us both about trading with the native population and about fights between them. On the other hand, there is increasing evidence of interaction between the two groups and it may be that the whole situation was a lot more positive than the image provided by the sagas. The sagas are literature after all, and it may have been more interesting to describe fighting than trading. In view of recent archaeological finds, I’m sure more evidence will be appearing in the future.

How could a longship or a knarr make it all the way across the Atlantic?
It may seem strange to us that people set out across the North Atlantic in open ships, but we need to see this in its context. It was of course a very long and dangerous journey, and the sagas contain stories about ships being lost on the way. People in the Viking age were, however, very used to travelling in this way and they didn’t start by crossing the Atlantic. People in Scandinavia were using ships with sails from the early Iron Age and developed their ships and sailing skills over several hundred years. They were extremely talented seamen and knew when and how to sail, following currents, fish and seabirds.
Across the Channel, Vikings threatened the Franks in Normandy, Brittany and Aquitaine. By the end of the 9th century, Vikings from Denmark had increased the amount of coastal assaults on Western Europe and would proceed to populate significant amounts of territory in Normandy, Brittany and Aquitaine. Their leader, Reginhererus or Ragnar, thought by some to be the legendary figure Ragnar Lodbrok described in Old Norse poetry, had the confidence and the audacity to seize Paris in 845.

Ragnar led an army of 120 longships and 5,000 warriors - fierce men who had already scorched the earth all over Europe. After plundering Rouen, the siege of Paris began on 28 March. Although the attackers were stopped in their tracks by a plague that spread through the camp, they still managed to take the city, and were only stopped from burning it to the ground by a last-ditch Frankish ransom of 7,000 pounds of silver.

Despite being primarily Danish territory, a Norweigan leader emerged by the name of Hrolfr, or, as he is more commonly known, Rollo. Already a veteran of conflicts on the British Isles, his military forces besieged the city of Chartres, forcing the King of the Franks, Charles III, to sign the Treaty of Saint Clair-sur-Epte in 911, granting Rollo feudal rights in the area around Rouen.

Viking land now stretched from Normandy in the north to Aquitaine in the south, and remained under Viking control for about two centuries. Even though they had foreign invaders in their lands, this was actually of benefit to the Franks as it meant the Norsemen would effectively provide them with a buffer zone against coastal invasions from other enemies of the realm.

It was not long until Christianity and Frankish customs started to take over from Nordic culture. Rollo himself was baptised and the Normans that invaded England in 1066 were descendants of the Normandy Vikings. The Medieval French word for a Scandinavian is 'Normand', a term that was then given to the area (Normandy) and the people that inhabited it (Normans). Harald Hardrada may have been defeated at Stamford Bridge, but William the Conqueror's forces that were victorious at Hastings were more Norse than many think.
Russia and Eastern Europe

Using the river systems of the Baltic to their advantage, the Vikings travelled east for further trade and conquest.

One of the greatest Viking achievements is perhaps their foray deep into Eastern Europe. In the 9th century, the Slavic tribes in Russia and Eastern Europe were fast becoming exhausted by constant inter-tribal wars that were stretching their resources and affecting their commerce. Capitalising on the broken alliances, the Viking ships arrived from the Gulf of Finland in huge numbers. Using large rivers such as the Volga, Neva and Volkovas as waterways, the men from the north vastly expanded their territory.

The town of Novgorod on the banks of Lake Ilmen became one of the main strongholds for the Nordic invaders, who were known as the ‘Rus’. The East European plain provided the Vikings with forest and grassland that was ideal for hunting, fishing and farming. The plentiful food supply helped trade routes expand further northwards towards Lake Ladoga and southwards down the River Dnieper. The Rus people traded with local Slavic tribes and travelled into modern-day Russia, helping give the nation its name in the process. The three Swedish kings who came from overseas were Rurik, Sineus and Truvor, who settled in Novgorod. Belozerzeg and Izborsk. Rurik’s son, Oleg of Novgorod, travelled 600 miles south to take control of Kiev in 882 and went on to pillage lands even further southwards, knocking on the door of the Byzantine Empire in the process.

Like many of the areas that the Vikings inhabited, their influence steadily declined and was replaced by local customs. This happened once again in Eastern Europe as the Russian identity began to become distinct from Norse. One of the kings of Kiev, Vladimir, took the decision to make Greek Orthodox the area’s religion in 988, decreasing the impact and relevance of Viking paganism even further. The culture change of the Norse people to more Slavic customs resulted in the growth of a Russian dynasty that rivalled the Carolingian Empire in Western Europe. The founders of the Russian tsardom were descendants of the Rurik Dynasty, a Viking dynasty that became one of Europe’s oldest royal houses.

Trade and negotiation were essential to Viking conquests. Here, a Norseman is bargaining with a Persian merchant over the price of a female slave.

Seven other travelling civilisations

Normans
Well known for their lands in France and England, the Normans were descendants of the Vikings. A realm was established in Sicily and southern Italy in the 10th and 11th century. The Normans also established states in North Africa and parts of today’s Lebanon.

Phoenicians
To the Mediterranean what the Vikings were to the north Atlantic, the Phoenicians were one of the finest trading civilisations of the ancient world. The most powerful city-states were Sidon and Tyre, which became almost too tough for Alexander the Great to conquer.

Venetian Republic
One of the finest naval trading powers of all time, Venice was the greatest seaport in Late Medieval Europe. The Venetians were excellent shipbuilders and trading; thanks to the largely landlocked in which they lived. The Republic controlled states such as Corsica and Dalmatia until its decline and fall in the Napoleonic era.

Genoese Republic
Venice’s rival in chief, Genoa benefited from a natural harbour that led to the Ligurian Sea. Its booming maritime economy allowed it to be an independent republic for 800 years. Genoa’s trade helped the West in the Crusades and had links as far away as Crimea before losing ground to Venice.

Kalmar Union
In many ways, the successor to the Vikings in Scandinavia, the people of the Kalmar Union were great travellers. The kingdoms of Denmark, Norway and Sweden were incorporated under one crown with Copenhagen as the capital. The Union also incorporated Iceland and Greenland.

Srivijaya
Another civilisation that based its power on sea trade, the Srivijaya Empire prospered between the 7th and 13th centuries. In its heyday, the civilisation had trade links with India, China and the Malay Archipelago. Their power waned after attacks by the Chola and Malayu people.

Abbasid Caliphate
After overthrowing the Umayyad Caliphate in 750, the Abbasid Dynasty became the strongest empire in Asia Minor and northern Africa until the Mongols in 1258. The caliphate presided over the ‘Golden Age of Islam’ as Muslim merchants traded in the Mediterranean and Indian Ocean.
Lost Kingdoms of the Vikings

Constantinople

The Vikings venture to the gates of the Byzantine Empire

Viking lands were growing ever southwards, and by the early 10th century, an encounter with the Byzantine Empire was imminent. The movement came to a head in 860 during the siege of Constantinople, as a flotilla of 200 Viking warships emerged from the darkness and headed for the city they knew as ‘Miklagard’ (the Great City). After this, accounts become quite hazy, but the most likely outcome is the Vikings could only conquer the suburbs and not the fortified inner city without siege equipment. Determined to plunder the wealth of what was the biggest city the Vikings had ever seen, assaults continued, eventually resulting in the 2 September 911 commercial trading treaty. This brought friendly relations between the two states and frequent trade across the Black Sea as the Vikings took control of the Volga Trade Route from the Baltic Sea to the north and the Caspian Sea to the south. By 944, the relations soured, and Oleg’s successor, Igor of Kiev, led an unsuccessful campaign against the Byzantines in 941. A new treaty introduced restrictions on Rus attacks on Byzantine lands in Crimea and a complete ban on fortress construction at the mouth of the Dnieper River. As time went on, the overstretched Vikings reasoned they could not conquer Constantinople, so many decided instead to go into the service of the emperor.

The Vikings that had ventured further south were called Varangians, which was the name given to them by the Greeks. After the final failed siege of Constantinople, the Byzantines were so impressed with the Varangian fighting mentality that the emperor, Basil II, hired them as warriors as part of his personal guard in 988. The Byzantine military was very multicultural in nature, so Viking men were warmly welcomed. This new breed of soldier travelled far and wide to the likes of Syria, Armenia and Sicily under the Byzantine banner as the attacks from non-Byzantine Varangians ended in 1043 after the Rus-Byzantine War. The loss signalled the end of the Varangian advance towards Asia as the area became either Slavic or Byzantine not Norse. The Varangian Guard soldiered on until the 14th century, though, ensuring that there were still some Vikings standing in Constantinople.

Anatomy of a Varangian guard

The fearsome warriors who became the most brutal bodyguards of the age

01 Axe
Wielding a foot-long bladed axe, when the Varangian guards arrived, the Byzantine emperor’s presence on the battlefield was confirmed.

02 Weaponry
Double-edged swords and spears would also be used if an axe wasn’t available, or it was favourable for the conditions of battle.

03 Shield
Shields would be in the classic Viking round style and would be worn on the back when warriors were wielding a two-handed weapon.

04 Helmet
Varangian guards wore an iron conical helmet but were also happy to don a headdress instead in the hot Mediterranean weather.

05 Boots
Tough leather boots were covered by greaves or leg guards to protect the lower legs from hacks and slashes.

06 Clothing
A standard tunic would be worn under the armour along with metal strips that protected the wrists and forearms from slashes.

07 Armour
This elite unit had a choice of lamellar armour made out of iron or bronze plates or a chain mail hauberk.

08 Mounted infantry berserkers
The Varangian guard rode to battle but did their fighting on foot. Their heavy armour had pros and cons depending on the battle.
Legacy
The remnants of Viking expansion in Europe, Asia and the Americas

The influence left by the Vikings is greater than many are led to believe. From the Normans in the west to the Rus in the east, many civilizations that went on to dominate the late Middle Ages and beyond owed their roots to Viking expansion. The Vikings helped open the doors to pan-European trade and established urban centres at Dublin, Kiev and Reykjavik, cities at almost opposite ends of Europe. The effect of Norse culture is restricted more than it could have been as the Vikings never truly settled south of Denmark. They were an exploring people who lacked mass land armies and huge cities to stamp their authority and leadership on areas outside their own sphere of influence. They simply did not have the construction nous to establish a chain as large or as powerful as Constantinople or Rome. Additionally, the Christianisation of Europe watered down the Nordic influence further and ended it completely when Scandinavia was fully converted in the 12th century.

Outside of Europe, Africa and Asia Minor were only briefly settled upon, so the influence seen today is from the Mongol Empire and Islamic caliphates. America suffers from the same problem, and that is why Columbus is and always will be seen as the first to discover the New World. The Viking age lasted for hundreds of years, and whether it’s a city name in northern England, a type of axe or French surnames, the legacy is there for all to see.

Iberia
The Norse expansion into the Christian north and Islamic south of Spain

After controlling the Bay of Biscay and establishing themselves on France’s western coast, the Vikings moved even further south to the Iberian Peninsula. The first known attack was made up of 100 ships launched from Aquitaine in 844 and raided both Gijon and Coruna. After meeting strong resistance, the seafarers changed tack and headed for what is now Portugal. The raids were initially small and infrequent and, as with most Nordic attacks of the age, the coast was the worst affected. Prisoners were taken and monasteries were destroyed.

The first few assaults were mostly concentrated in the north of the Christian kingdoms of Asturias and Galicia. The southern Islamic part of Spain, al-Andalus, was targeted as well. Seville became a Viking city for six weeks in 844 and Lisbon was plundered for all its worth. The attacks came at a bad time for the Muslim population, who were enduring the start of the Christian Reconquista. Despite the ability for longships to sail from Normandy in less than a week and evidence of longshors, Iberia would soon become a bridge too far for the Norsemen.

As the attacks subsided, the lands were regained from the Vikings. The Muslim leader, Abd al-Rahman II, took back Seville and sent the heads of 200 Viking warriors to his Moroccan allies. The Vikings returned in 859 led by Bjorn Ironside and Hastein. They sailed around the peninsula in search of southern France and Italy. This turned out to be a shrewd move as both the Muslim and Christian settlements were too strong for long-term attacks to be worthwhile and repelled the Vikings before they could get close to Seville this time. The Norsemen returned north to France but their descendants, the Christianised Normans, would be back in the Mediterranean in later centuries.
The Women before Wallis

It has been called the greatest love story in history, as well as the greatest scandal, but years before Edward VIII's abdication, he was indulging in relationships every bit as scandalous.
Edward VIII is remembered for causing what may be the most infamous royal scandal in history. In December 1936, less than a year after his coronation, he abdicated the throne to marry the love of his life Wallis Simpson. A two-time divorcée, the British and Dominion governments considered her politically, socially and morally unsuitable as a prospective consort, and marrying her would have presented a constitutional crisis. To avoid this, the king decided to step down. However, before he had even met Wallis, Edward’s life was plagued with scandal, mainly thanks to his penchant for illicit liaisons. From his early 20s, he engaged in a series of relationships with prostitutes and socialites, but most of all, married women. Might the affair for which he is most remembered be the least scandalous of them all?

Towards the end of 1916, while the then Prince Edward was with the British Army in France, his two equerries decided that, at the age of 22, his virginity had been unhealthily protracted. They took him to Amiens, gave him an excellent dinner with much wine and then entrusted him to the skilled care of a French prostitute. Her ministrations proved effective, and dramatically changed the pattern of his private life. "Oh! To set eyes on one of the darlings again!" he wrote in anguish from the Front a few months later. "How one does miss them, and I don’t think of anything but women now." Though it is true that in the whole of his life he only seriously loved two women, as a young man he enjoyed an eventful and animated sex life, convincing himself each time that his passion was real and lasting before moving on to another conquest.

On the whole, the prince preferred women who were older than he was. His first great love was Marion Coke, wife of the future Earl
of Leicester, "How can I express to you all I feel about it or thank you for everything?" he wrote after one particularly rapturous period of leave in London. "C'est impossible, tho' you know how much I long to and do in my thoughts. You have been too angelically kind to me for words and have absolutely changed my life..." But Lady Cole was far too sensible to let the relationship get out of hand or cause any serious embarrassment to her complaint husband.

More serious, in that it could theoretically have ended in marriage, was his affair with Portia Cadogan. Portia was the daughter of a rich and landed earl - handsome rather than pretty - with a powerful personality and with a good game of golf. "It was divine!" the prince confided to his diary after an evening with her at the Gaiety Theatre followed by two hours dancing to the gramophone, "particularly as I'm madly in love with her! Oh, if only..." If only what? One wonders.

It would have been a striking breakthrough for the heir to marry someone not of royal blood, but eligible princesses were in short supply in Europe at that time and it would not have taken much argument to persuade King George V that Portia might one day make a satisfactory queen. For some reason, however - perhaps because the prince seemed reluctant to commit himself - Portia wearied of the affair and announced her engagement to another man.

The prince professed himself much disappointed, but quickly transferred his attentions to Rosemary Leveson-Gower, daughter of the Duke of Sutherland. The queen took alarm. "I agree Rosemary is attractive," she wrote, "but pray don't think of her. There is a taint in the blood of her mother's family." He had no serious intentions in that direction, the prince reassured his mother, but Rosemary Leveson-Gower remained the focus of his attentions until, in February 1919, he met the first of his two great loves, Freda Dudley Ward.

Freda, from the point of view of the king and queen, was less threatening than Rosemary Leveson-Gower in that she was safely married to a rich liberal member of parliament. Her husband, 16 years older than her, had his own fish to fry and, if anything, was gratified that his wife should attract the attentions of the heir to the throne. Certainly he made no
During his visit to Germany in 1937, Edward inspected an SS squadron with the head of the German Labour Front Robert Ley.

Hitler’s royal?

An abdicated monarch is a sorry spectacle, and the Duke of Windsor was fully conscious of his diminished standing in the eyes of the world. Anything that could convince him he was still a figure of international importance was eagerly grasped at. When the immensely rich efficiency expert Charles Ruxton urged him to visit Nazi Germany in 1937, assuring him he would be received with proper deference, Edward eagerly swallowed the bait. He knew little or nothing of the persecution of the Jews that was already under way; his qualified acceptance of the policies of the fascist government was very similar to that of the Conservative prime minister, Neville Chamberlain; he genuinely, if naively, believed he had a part to play in reconciling Britain and Germany – it was not difficult for him to persuade himself that it was his duty to make the journey. The Germans took full advantage of the visit: images of the ex-king shaking hands with Hitler and speaking admiringly of the achievements of the regime in the fields of workers’ housing and education were sent around the world. No real harm was done, but the belief that the duke was well disposed towards fascist Germany did his reputation much harm when war followed two years later.
King of hearts
Edward's long list of lovers revealed, and it seems he hated 'princing' just as much as he loved other men's wives

Marguerite Alibert 1917
Edward fell head over heels for this French courtesan whilst serving in France in World War I, and took advantage of her experience in the bedroom.

Marion Coke 1917
His first liaison on home soil, Marion was married to the Earl of Leicester, who eventually warned the prince to stay away.

Lady Portia Cadogan 1917
During his affair with Lady Coke, Edward also romanced his sister's best friend, but she ended the relationship to marry his friend Lord Edward Stanley.

Rosemary Leveson-Gower 1918
A noted society beauty, both of the prince's parents were against the match as they claimed there was a 'taint of the blood' in the Leveson-Gower family.

Freda Dudley Ward 1919-34
The English socialite was also a married woman, but she was regarded as a model of discretion throughout their affair.

Lady Thelma Furness 1930-34
Edward and Thelma's affair began while they were on safari together. She was, of course, married to another man. In 1931, she introduced him to her close friend Wallis.

Wallis Simpson 1934-72
An American socialite and married woman, Simpson filed for divorce in 1936 in order to marry Edward. He in turn abdicated the throne.
serious effort to interrupt a relationship that was conducted, by his wife at any rate, with exemplary discretion. Left to himself, the prince might not have been so temperate. "Fredie darling," he wrote to her, "I love you now beyond all understanding and all I can say is bless you, bless you for being so sweet and divine and tender and sympathetic to your David last night and for saving him, mon amour!" Freda, however, knew the rules and stuck to them. The king and queen regretted the fact that their elder son was not doing his duty by marrying an eligible princess and producing further heirs to the throne, but at least while Freda was maitresse en titre, they could be sure that the affair would be conducted without any overt scandal. The situation was to change dramatically for the worse when, early in 1931, at a house party in Lady Furness's country home near Melton Mowbray, the prince met Wallis Simpson.

Mrs Simpson has been the victim of much lurid gossip. At times she was accused of being illegitimate, of being both a lesbian and a nymphomaniac, a spy for the Nazis and probably the KGB, she had been Joachim von Ribbentrop's mistress and had a child by Count Ciano; she learned her sexual techniques in the brothels of Hong Kong, or was it perhaps Shanghai? A little of this may have been true; nearly all of it was fantasy. Her ambition and her determination were both formidable, otherwise she was a rather ordinary woman. She was a member of a respectable family from Baltimore and was brought up in a world to which it was generally admitted that she belonged, but in which she was very much a poor relation. The result was that she was imbued by a hunger for security and a belief that it could only be attained by accumulating large amounts of money or readily realisable assets. Physically, she did not seem to carry the guns that would make this ambition easy to fulfil. "Nobody ever called me beautiful or even pretty," she wrote in her memoirs. "...my jaw was clearly too big and too pointed to be classic. My hair was straight when the laws of compensation might at least have provided curls." Her assets were fine eyes, a radiant complexion, an excellent figure and a sense of style that was refined with time but apparent from the moment she first took responsibility for her own appearance. Above all, she had a confidence in her own attractions that convinced people she was a beauty even though she had slight claims to such a description. She was shrewd and quick-witted, adequately educated and with no interest in intellectual questions but more than capable of holding her own at the dinner table. What she possessed in inordinate quantity was that mysterious and indefinable attribute: sex appeal. She understood men - not necessarily what they thought or believed but what they wanted - and much of what they wanted she knew she was well equipped to give them. A graphologist was once given a sample of her handwriting without any indication of her identity. The writer, concluded the expert, was: "A woman with a strong male inclination in the sense of activity, vitality and initiative; she must dominate, she must have authority, and without sufficient scope for her powers can become disagreeable... She is ambitious and demands above all that her undertakings should be noticed and valued. In the physical sense of the word sadistic, cold, over-bearing, vain."

From their first meeting, Mrs Simpson seemed to have decided that the Prince of Wales was her natural prey. He proved an easy victim. He found in her something that he had never encountered among the upper-class British ladies with whom he had so far consorted - disrespect, even contempt. He loved it and he loved her.

It was a passion that never faded. From time to time in Paris I found myself lunching at the Windsors' table. On one occasion, Wallis, for some reason, murmured something to the guest sitting next to her, rose and left the table. For a moment or two Edward went on talking in a distracted way, then he rose and followed her. He could not bear not to know what had become of her, why she had gone away. She snubbed him ruthlessly and he loved it. Once at a dinner party Edward unthinkingly asked the butler to give the chauffeur a message about his needs the following day.
The women before Wallis

Edward’s murderous mistress

Andrew Rose - barrister, judge, and historian - writes biographies with social, political and legal themes, specialising in the interwar period including Stinie: Murder On The Common, Scandal At The Savoy and The Prince, The Princess And The Perfect Murder.

In April 1917, Edward was swept off his feet by Marguerite Albert, a high-class Parisian courtesan, professionally known as ‘Maggie Mellor’. Maggie’s studbook already included a cohort of seriously rich admirers, including the Duke of Westminster, French aristocrats, politicians and bankers. Her eye-watering sexual repertoire captivated the shy prince and their affair lasted until the end of the war. Edward wrote wildly indiscreet love letters to Maggie, which she kept. This intimate correspondence would eventually save her from the gallows. In 1923, she shot her wealthy Egyptian husband dead for his money and was charged with murder. Faced with blackmail, the royal household did a back-room deal. Maggie stayed silent about the royal affair; the trial judge ensured the jury were not told about her true (and damming) character. Edward got his letters back and Maggie walked free from court.

Lady Rosemary Leveson-Gower (second left) poses for a photograph with her mother (left) and other ladies in 1913.
Scandal in the House of Windsor
It's not just Edward who has made the tabloid headlines

CASH FOR ACCESS
Following a scandalous divorce, Sarah 'Fergie' Ferguson once again found herself front-page news when an undercover reporter filmed her offering access to her ex-husband Prince Andrew for £500,000.

HARRY'S NAZI COSTUME
Ever since his teenage years, Prince Harry has been the subject of scandal. He's been caught smoking cannabis and making racist remarks, and was photographed dressed as a Nazi at a Colonial and Native-themed party.

CAMILLAGATE
Prince Charles and Camilla met in 1971, and began dating shortly after. Though they eventually went their separate ways, with Charles marrying Lady Diana Spencer in 1981, the pair were later recorded having an intimate conversation.

KATE MIDDLETON TOPLESS
There was outrage when in 2012, the French edition of Closer magazine published photos of the duchess sunbathing topless while on holiday in the Cote d'Azur. A criminal investigation was launched, the results of which are undisclosed.

ANNE'S CRIMINAL RECORD
The Princess Royal became the first senior member of the royal family to have a criminal record when her dog, Dotty, attacked two children while walking in Great Windsor Park. She was fined £500 and ordered to give Dotty more training.

SQUIDGYGATE
In 1992, The Sun revealed the existence of taped telephone conversations between Princess Diana and her close friend James Gilby, in which he referred to her affectionately as 'Squidgy'. Many believed this to be proof that the two were having an affair.

Wallis, who missed nothing that happened at her table, raised her hands high in the air and brought them down with a crash that set the plates and glasses rattling. A horrified hush fell on the company. "Never," she hissed, "never again will you give orders in my house." Realising that she had gone a little far, she then turned to her neighbour and explained: "You see, the duke is in charge of everything that happens outside the house and I on the inside."

That Edward, whether as Prince of Wales, King or Duke of Windsor, loved Wallis to distraction is evident beyond question. Never for a moment did he doubt that he had made the right decision when he renounced the throne to marry her. There are some who argue that he had never wanted to be king, that he seized with delight at the means of escape from the royal prison house.

There is some truth in this - he was not cut out to bear the burden of endless social duties, of the slogging hard work that has to be accepted by any successful monarch. But he enjoyed the grandeur, the dignity, the limitless wealth that went with monarchy. To abandon all this for a life in exile in a country whose language he spoke inadequately and in which he had few friends was a real sacrifice. He never doubted, though, that the sacrifice had been worthwhile. One might argue that he could not allow himself to think otherwise, that his sacrifice might have been in vain was a concept too awful to contemplate. But even if such thoughts had flashed into his mind, they would not have had permanent lodging there; the sacrifice had not been in vain.

He was married to the most wonderful woman in the world, nothing could possibly be more desirable than this. She knew she was not married to the most wonderful man in the world. She must from time to time have asked herself whether it was all worthwhile, whether it would not have been better if she had remained married to her prosperous shipping magnate. But she liked the consequence, she liked being a duchess, she liked being bowed to and addressed as Your Royal Highness, even though she knew that no such dignity would be accorded her at the British Embassy and that no invitation would ever be issued to attend the Court in London.

She did not love him as he loved her. She sometimes treated him, even in public, with a measure of contempt; she did not spare his feelings when she diverted herself with the American socialite Jimmy Donahue, a notorious pederast. "She's safe as houses with him!" the duke replied when asked whether he felt concern that Wallis spent so much time in Donahue's company. But it must have hurt; she was still everything to the duke; it was painfully obvious he was not everything to her. On the whole, though, she never forgot what he had given up for her and treated him with loyalty and consideration. It was not a marriage that conformed to any traditional romantic image, but it was a happy one for all that.
China in the 1960s is a place of censorship, poverty and hard labour. Chairman Mao Zedong is the ostensible head of the country, having led the Chinese Communist Party and chaired the People's Republic of China from 1949-59, he will remain the chairman of the party until his death in 1976. However, he is more than a leader, Mao has created a fierce cult of personality around himself - his face is plastered across the country while his Little Red Book of quotes is compulsory reading. Mao has been in power for decades already by the time of the Cultural Revolution, an initiative characterised by feeding the public propaganda, encouraging young people to undermine figures of authority (apart from Mao) and eliminating political opponents. The ultimate aim is to secure his place in history while avoiding a loss of momentum or eventual collapse, as seen in the Soviet Union.

**Dos & Don’ts**

- **Know the words to East Is Red.** An anthem of the Cultural Revolution, knowing the words will help you blend in. It begins: “The east is red, the sun is rising. China has brought forth a Mao Zedong, he works for the people’s happiness.”

- **Hold on to Mao memorabilia.** Mangoes rejected by Mao gain cult status. Keep anything Mao-related for bargaining.

- **Kill flies, rats, mosquitoes and sparrows.** The Four Pests initiative requires families to present one rat’s tail a week.

- **Read the newspaper... but don’t believe everything you read.** One way in which Maoist propaganda infiltrates the masses is through the media.

- **Express anti-Mao thought.** Be it a right-wing view or anything conflicting with the ideals of the Communist Party, speaking out of line will arouse suspicion.

- **Leave your Little Red Book behind.** This book of quotes by Chairman Mao is essential reading for all citizens.

- **Make a fashion statement.** Most citizens wear uniforms or simple clothing. Luxurious clothes are bourgeois, apart from the zhifu, the tunic and trousers combination most often sported by Mao.

- **Brush your teeth.** Mao never brushes his teeth as “a tiger never brushes its teeth.” Many Chinese people follow suit.

**WHERE TO STAY**

While the Chinese Communist Party state that you can live anywhere you wish, the reality is quite different. Workers and managers live side by side in overcrowded apartment blocks in cities. You’ll need a permit to live in one though (and, in fact, to live anywhere), which requires government registration. To make as little impact as possible, it may be best to stay in a rural community, far from cities like Beijing and Shanghai.

Maoist ideology is geared towards peasants, so you could find that you encounter less hostility in the countryside. Don’t expect to be farming, however, as the Great Leap Forward initiative shunned traditional agriculture in favour of modernisation.

**Did you know?**

The ‘Iron Rice Bowl’ is a common phrase meaning job security from the state.
WHO TO BEFRIEND

Cadre
The agents of Mao's state control, cadres are appointed members of the Chinese Communist Party tasked with controlling a specific work unit, or danwei. The responsibility of cadres is large. They will allocate housing, grain, oil and other rations. They also have the ability to grant workers permission to join the Communist Party and change career. Perhaps most importantly of all, they issue permits to marry, travel, and even conceive or adopt children. With such all-encompassing power over the life of the average Chinese worker, it would be a big advantage to have one of these state representatives on your side.

Extra tip: The Communist Party and Red Guard are particularly hostile towards ‘experts’, such as doctors, teachers and other intellectuals, so if you have any qualifications, keep them to yourself. Xenophobia is also a shared interest, so lambast other countries at every turn.

Helpful Skills

Violence and political brainwashing might be prevalent skills in Mao's China, but if you're not so keen on those methods, these can help you too.

Hard work
Young people born in this era will come to be called 'the lost generation' as education is sidelined in favour of labour. If you are lazy in your work, you will be punished.

Kung Fu
Used by the well-trained army, this traditional Chinese martial art could help you out of a tight spot. Its combination of defence and attack means you’ll be covered in any conflict you encounter.

Rebellious nature
The Cultural Revolution aims to encourage the rejection of authority figures, so that Mao can cling to power without threat. As such, rebelling against teachers and other authority figures will gain you favour.
Bluffer’s Guide
SARAJEVO, BOSNIA, 28 JUNE 1914
The Assassination of Franz Ferdinand

Timeline

1983
The Serbian government is overthrown. King Alexander and his wife are killed in the coup led by Dragutin Dimitrijevic and his group of army officers.

1906
The Serbian relationship with Austria-Hungary sours, resulting in a trade dispute named the Pig War due to a customs blockade on Serbian pork.

1908
Bosnia and Herzegovina is annexed by Austria-Hungary, causing outrage among those hoping to unite the South Slav countries.

1908-1909
The annexation results in the Bosnian Crisis, a time of protest and riots. Serbia becomes involved, but it ends in Serbian acquiescence.
Bluffer’s Guide

THE ASSASSINATION OF FRANZ FERDINAND

What was it?
Franz Ferdinand, Archduke of Austria-Hungary and next in line for the throne, was in Sarajevo with his wife, Duchess Sophie, for a political visit. It would include inspecting military barracks, an official reception and a motorcade. However, rather than the warm reception expected for a royal guest, Ferdinand was welcomed by six assassins.

The first attempt on Ferdinand’s life came from Nedeljko Cabrinović, who threw a hand grenade at the car carrying Ferdinand, but he missed. Realising his failure, he attempted to commit suicide by taking a cyanide pill and jumping into the river. Both proved inadequate - he regurgitated the cyanide pill and the water only came up to his ankles. He was arrested.

Fearing another attempt, Ferdinand decided on a different route back, but failed to inform his driver. This error led him to Gavrilo Princip. Princip only made it into the history books by luck - he’d given up on the assassination by the time he came across Ferdinand’s car. He jumped in front of the car and fired, hitting Ferdinand in the jugular vein, which caused him to bleed to death.

Why did it happen?
Prior to the assassination, tension between the neighbouring countries within the Austro-Hungarian Empire (a large multinational realm that lasted between 1867 and 1918) had been rising. Bosnia and Herzegovina was fully annexed by Austria-Hungary in 1908, which caused anger among many Bosniaks and Serbs.

When Ferdinand’s visit to Sarajevo was announced, a plan for his assassination as an act of vengeance was set in motion. The assassins, five Serbs and one Bosniak, got their ammunition and training from the Black Hand, a Serb terrorist organisation with a serious vendetta towards the Austro-Hungarian Empire. The Black Hand was fighting for a movement dubbed Young Bosnia, hoping to break off the South Slav provinces. Danilo Ilić, a key member of this secret society, is thought to have been the brain behind the operation and recruited the six assassins, but the Black Hand society was an expansive operation, and included big names such as Chief of Serbian Military Intelligence Dragutin Dimitrijević.

Who was involved?

Gavrilo Princip
1894-1918
Despite being one of six assassins, Princip fired the fateful shot that hit Ferdinand in the jugular vein, leading to his death.

Duchess Sophie
1868-1914
A commoner before marrying Ferdinand, her death was partly accidental - she was hit as Princip aimed for Governor Potiorek.

Dragutin Dimitrijević
1876-1917
Dimitrijević was in charge of the Black Hand. He also played a key role in overthrowing the Serbian government in 1903.
SHADOW WARRIORS

THE SECRET WORLD OF THE NINJA

Surrounded by mystery, the elite ninja were the highly trained masters of espionage, infiltration, sabotage and assassination called upon for the most dangerous missions.

Written by Matthew Moss

Japan’s legendary ninja are shrouded in myth and their exploits steeped in Japanese folklore, blurring the lines between fact and fiction. However, the real-life exploits of the ninja are far more fascinating than the legends that have grown around them since their golden age during the 15th and 16th centuries.

The ninja, or ‘shinobi’, emerged in the mid-15th century. Although the skills most associated with them – spying, infiltration and assassination – had been practised before the emergence of ninja, it wasn’t until the mid 1400s that a class of specially trained warriors appeared. The ninja have typically been seen as the antithesis of the honourable samurai, but the relationship is in fact much more complicated. Ninja were often hired mercenaries, but examples can be found of samurai also acting as ninja.

Specially trained spies and assassins began to appear during the 15th century, acting as mercenaries for hire by warlords to spy on, raid, sabotage and murder their rivals. The term shinobi came to describe these mercenaries, who originated from the warrior caste; they were not merely peasant farmers. They were at least ashigaru (foot soldiers), and in some cases even samurai. At first, fathers passed the trade on to their children, but as the profession grew, guilds and clans were created. Ninja were called upon to carry out the most dangerous missions, and often their survival was not guaranteed. Their abilities saw them act as spies, scouts, infiltrators, assassins and arsonists. The chief role of the ninja was to gather intelligence, either by infiltrating an enemy castle or camp, or through reconnaissance.

A contemporary instructional poem advised ninja to “always draw what you have learned while scouting, and then report it to the strategist directly in person.” While another recommended, “If guiding and planning the way whilst moving position, the essential information you must bring are the mountains, the rivers,
SHADOW WARRIORS

and the distance from the enemy. On countless occasions, the information gathered by ninja helped turn the tide of battles and sieges. Sabotage was another important role for the ninja, who often infiltrated enemy castles to set them on fire. In 1541, elite Iga ninja infiltrated Kasagi castle and set fire to the buildings in the outer bailey. This sort of raid became the specialty of the ninja, with similar attacks at Sawayama in 1558 and Maibara in 1561.

Ninja have become synonymous with assassination, and warlords often employed ninja to kill their rivals. The ninja were so skilful and stealthy that castle designers began to implement anti-ninja defences, including pressure-sensitive floorboards and hidden weapons. Many castles, like Himeji, were also designed to be mazes to those not familiar with their corridors and passages. These countermeasures were not always successful, however, and dozens of assassination attempts using various methods - from throat cutting to dripping poison into sleeping victims' mouths - were made.

During the vicious Onin War - which ravaged Japan between 1467 and 1477 and destabilised the country, plunging it into the chaotic era known as the Sengoku period - the shinobi emerged as a professional class of warriors. The rival daimyos (lords) who emerged during this time used ninja as another weapon in their arsenal, employing them as spies, scouts, kisho (surprise attackers) and agitators to disrupt their enemies. While they were often treated with suspicion and mistrusted even by their own allies, the ninja's skills were grudgingly respected. By the 1600s, the lines between the ninja and samurai class had become more blurred, with prominent samurai like Hattori Hanzo also being skilled ninja.

For nearly 2,000 years, two family clans provided ninja for the warring shoguns and daimyo. These clans, the Iga and the Kóga, took their names from their regions, which neighboured one another. The villages of this mountainous area became the breeding ground for Japan's most effective professional ninja. Free from feudal lords, these ninja were able to devote their lives to training in ninjutsu - the 'art of stealth'.

The Iga ninja were often retainers of the Ashikaga shogunate, until it was overthrown by Oda Nobunaga in 1573. In 1581, Nobunaga consolidated his power by destroying Ashikaga's supporters, invading Iga and destroying many of the region's villages. So fast was the attack that the Iga were unable to utilise their ninjutsu skills in their defence and were overwhelmed when they were forced to fight conventionally.

The Iga ninja that survived fled through the mountains to serve Tokugawa leyasu. One of the greatest Iga ninja, Hattori Hanzo, became a close friend and bodyguard of leyasu, protecting him and helping him escape Nobunaga. For this, Hanzo was rewarded with land and power as leyasu gained enough power to become shogun in 1603. The remnants of the Iga served as guards and spies for the Tokugawa shogunate into the 18th century.

The ninja of the smaller Kóga clan acted independently as mercenaries during the 14th century, with Kóga ninja often serving rival warlords. However, in the 15th century, they were called upon by their local daimyo, the Rokkaku,
Ninja were trained from an early age to master the skills to become expert shinobi.

Ninja spent their entire lives honing the skills, disciplines and abilities they needed to become masters of ninjutsu. The skills and traditions of the ninja were passed on from father to son or sensei to pupil, creating ninja dynasties. Training began at a very early age – like samurai they began almost as soon as they could walk, learning the 18 Disciplines including how to fight with a vast array of weapons, from katanas to throwing stars. In addition to the 18 Disciplines, they also learned the ‘Bugai Juhpan’ or the 18 Martial Arts. A ninja would also learn how to make poisons and explosives, use disguises, evade capture, break into buildings and use guns. They were extremely fit and capable of impressive physical feats such as running for a long period of time, scaling castle walls, leaping great distances and fighting multiple opponents without weapons. Ninja also developed psychological skills, learning not to fear death and building on the samurai’s tradition of loyalty – while serving their lord they acted clandestinely without expectation of public reward. Unlike the samurai, ninja specialised in covert warfare; their task was to infiltrate and weaken their enemies by assassinations and disrupting their ability to fight. Formal training of ninja began in the 1460s and continued through to the 18th century; today, a handful of schools keep the skills alive.

The 18 Disciplines:

1. Seishinteki kyōdō - Spiritual refinement
2. Ninpō Taijutsu - Athletic and hand-to-hand combat techniques
3. Kenpō - Sword fighting
4. Sōjutsu - Fighting with spears
5. Naginatajutsu - Glave fighting techniques
6. Bōjutsu - Fighting with a staff
7. Kayakujutsu - Using firearms, gunpowder and explosives
8. Kusarigama-jutsu - Fighting with sickle and chain
9. Shurikenjutsu - Throwing weapons techniques
10. Kyūjutsu - Archery
11. Saitōsō - Swimming and water-crossing techniques
12. Hensōjutsu - The art of disguise
13. Ongyōjutsu - Concealment and disappearing techniques
14. Kakushi Bukijutsu - The use of concealed weapons
15. Ninji - Mastering tools used to climb and break into houses
16. Nintyakujutsu - Herbal medicines and first-aid skills
17. Gunryaku Heihō - Intelligence gathering, covert techniques and unorthodox strategies
18. Tenmon - Astrology, meteorology, geography and topography
Seven Famous Ninja

Hattori Hanzō
1540s-96
Hanzō was also a samurai, a master tactician and an expert in spear fighting in the service of the Tokugawa shogunate. During the 1580s, he and his ninja protected their lord, helping him become the ruler of all Japan.

Mochizuki Chiyome
1540s-70s
Mochizuki is one of the most famous female ninja. She founded an all-female espionage network from orphaned girls, refugees and prostitutes to spy for her husband’s uncle, Takeda Shingen.

Fūma Kotarō
1550–1603
Kotarō was the leader of the independent ninja Fūma clan. Kotarō served the Hōjō clan, and in 1580 he and his ninja covertly infiltrated the Takeda clan’s camp causing chaos and panic.

Ishikawa Goemon
1558–94
Goemon was an outlaw ninja and Japan’s answer to Robin Hood, who stole from wealthy feudal lords and daiyōs to give to the poor. He was finally captured and boiled to death in a cauldron.

Tome Sukesada
16th Century
Sukesada led the Kōga ninja. He and 60 of his men were hired by Nobunaga to destroy Kaminokuni castle, held by the Imagawa clan. They set fire to the castle’s towers and killed 200 defenders.

Kató Danzō
1500–69
Danzō was a skilled illusionist who combined this talent with his ninja training to become known for his ability to create distractions and disappear. He served Uesugi Kenshin.

Kido Yazaemon
1539–80
Yazaemon became an expert with the Tanegashima matchlock arquebus. In 1575, he led a band of ninja armed with muskets in an assassination attempt on warlord Oda Nobunaga.

“Ninja infiltrated the Imagawa castle and set fire to its towers, causing panic”

to defend their land. Following the Onin War, the Rokkaku began to rebel against the Ashikaga shogunate, seizing territory and ignoring the shogun’s orders. In 1487, Ashikaga Yoshihisa, the ninth shogun of the Ashikaga shogunate, led an army to besiege Rokkaku castles. It was during this conflict that the Iga ninja, serving the shogunate, and Kōga ninja clashed. One by one, Rokkaku castles fell and the lords fled, ordering their Kōga retainers to fight to the death. The Kōga ninja were masters of guerrilla warfare and launched an insurgency, confounding the shogun at every turn. They exploited their expert knowledge of the local geography, hiding in the mountains and launching raids on Yoshihisa’s forces. The ninja attacked the shogun’s camps, causing chaos and confusion with fires and smoke screens.

After holding off the shogun’s troops for a few years, Yoshihisa’s death in 1489 finally ended the occupation of the Kōga territory. The skill and bravery of the Kōga ninja’s guerrilla war made them famous, and they gained a formidable reputation as both conventional and unconventional warriors.

During the 1600s, Tokugawa Ieyasu hired Kōga ninja, led by Tomo Sukesada, to raid Imagawa clan outposts. Sukesada and his Kōga ninja infiltrated the Imagawa castle and set fire to its towers, causing panic and killing much of the garrison.

They again played a pivotal role during the Battle of Sekigahara, where they helped defend Fushimi Castle and hold up Ishida Mitsunari’s attack.

Tokugawa Ieyasu’s victory at the battle enabled him to create the Tokugawa shogunate, which would rule until 1868.

From 1600 onward, the Kōga and Iga ninja worked together as the shogun’s elite guard, defending his principle seat of power at Edo Castle. The Tokugawa shogunate presided over several centuries of peace in Japan, but in 1638, the ninja were called upon one last time.

The Shimabara Rebellion saw Christian rebels led by Amakusa Shirō rise up after their taxes were raised. As the shogun’s armies closed in on the rebels, they fell back to the castle at Hara and dug in for a long siege. With their expertise in siege warfare, the Kōga ninja returned to the field.
Accounts recall that during the siege they were sent to scout the Christian rebels’ defences. They reconnoitred the plan of the castle, the distance between bastions, the height of the walls, and the depth of the moat. On their return, they created a detailed plan of the defences for the shogun. The ninja were then tasked with raiding the enemy lines, capturing provisions and learning the enemy’s strength. During the final assault on Hara, Koga ninja acted as liasons and runners between the attacking forces. The castle was quickly overrun, and the Koga ninja had played an essential role in the suppression of Christianity in Japan. The religion wouldn’t resurface until the 19th century.

While ninja from Iga and Koga are some of the most revered, there were other active groups. One band, led by Fuma Kotaro, served the Hojo clan, but when their lord was defeated, they became bandits. Ishikawa Goemon is another ninja who turned to banditry. He became a legendary Robin Hood-like figure by stealing from the wealthy daimyo. He trained under Momochi Sandayu, an Iga master of ninjutsu, before he became a ronin, or runaway ninja. For 15 years, Goemon stole from the rich feudal overlords and gave to the poor. As a legendary figure, there are conflicting accounts of his death. The most common tells that in 1594, following the murder of his wife and capture of his son, he attempted to infiltrate Toyotomi Hideyoshi’s castle and assassinate him. However, the guards were alerted to his presence when he accidentally knocked a bell off a table, and he was promptly captured. Goemon was then executed by being boiled alive in an iron cauldron with his young son. Even today, Goemon remains a folklore legend in Japan.

Not all ninja were men. The female onna-bugeisha were warriors belonging to the Japanese nobility, and there were also female ninja, or kunoichi. Women were well suited to the clandestine role of the ninja and were uniquely able to infiltrate enemy strongholds in the guise of servants, dancers, concubines and geisha. The kunoichi also sometimes acted as assassins.

The most famous female ninja was Mochizuki Chiyome, who was descended from Koga ninja and the wife of a samurai lord. When her husband was killed in battle, she came under the protection of her late husband’s uncle, Takeda Shingen, the leader of the Takeda clan. Shingen asked Mochizuki to form a network of kunoichi to spy on rival clans and daimyo. Mochizuki recruited a band of female orphans, refugees and prostitutes, who she trained in the clandestine arts of the ninja. Mochizuki’s kunoichi gathered information and acted as messengers, often travelling as miko (priestesses) to avoid suspicion. Posing as geisha, prostitutes and servants, the kunoichi could gain access to the most heavily guarded strongholds.

Like their male counterparts, they were also trained assassins. The network grew to be several hundred strong before Shingen’s death in 1573, after which Mochizuki vanished from the historical record.

Following the Christian Shimabara Rebellion in 1638, Japan entered a long period of peace during the Edo period. This was the last great battle fought by the ninja before they slowly faded into obscurity during the long peace. Fighting became confined to small skirmishes and short-lived rebellions, and the need for ninja diminished. During the 18th century, the ninja’s traditional role of spying and intelligence gathering is thought to have been taken over by the Oniwaban, who reported to the shogun Tokugawa Yoshimune, providing information on the feudal lords he ruled over. The traditions and skills of the ninja continue, but only a shrinking handful can now claim to be true shinobi.
A NINJA'S KIT BAG

Ninjutsu armament was designed to enable ninja to infiltrate, assassinate and escape, and they were masters of many weapons and tools.

1. KYOKETSU-SHOGE This double-edged blade attached to a 3.5-metre-long rope or chain was developed from a peasant knife. It was a ranged weapon and could also be used to climb walls.
2. TESSEN The tessen, or war fan, was made from iron and used as a covert weapon and to deflect darts and arrows.
3. KAKUTE These small, viciously spiked iron rings would often be tipped with poisons.
4. SAI Typically used in pairs, sai and jitte were blunt weapons used to beat opponents with side guards to hook into clothing. It was also a symbol of rank.
5. CHIGIRIKI Similar to a European Medieval flail, the chigiriki had an iron weight attached to a wooden shaft.
6. BO-SHURIKEN A simple spike-like throwing weapon, it was used to slow and injure opponents at close ranges.
7. SHURIKEN The ninja's most famous weapon, the throwing star was never intended to kill. They could be wrapped with fuses and used to create a cloud of poisonous smoke.
8. BO-HIYA Originating from Korea, the bo-hiya fire arrow was originally shot from bows, but in the 16th century, matchlock arquebuses arrived in Japan, and samurai and ninja began firing bo-hiya from them.
9. KATANA The katana is synonymous with the samurai but ninja also used the deadly razor-sharp artisan-made swords. Using the katana was one of the martial arts a ninja had to master.
10. KAGINWA Part of the ninja's special equipment, this grappling hook was used to scale walls.
11. KUSARIGAMA The kusarigama was made up of a sickle with an iron chain that could be used to entangle an opponent's weapon before striking at them with the blade; the art of this weapon's use was called kusarigamajutsu.
12. MAKIBISHI These sharp, spiked iron caltrops could be used against men and horses.
13. MANRIKI The manrikí, or kusari-fundo, was made up of a chain (kusari) of any length with two weights (fundô) at each end.
14. SHIROMIZUE The covert shiromizue sword cane was the perfect weapon for a ninja, as it was ideal for sneaking into areas where weapons were not allowed.
15. TEKKO-KAGI Like many of the ninja's weapons, the tekko-kagi was developed from a farm tool. Worn on both hands, they were used to scratch an opponent's weak points.
16. ASHIKO CLEATS Ninja tied these iron cleats to their feet and used the spikes to help them scale the walls of castles and fortresses.
17. YUMI BOW Used by both ninja and samurai, the powerful yumi continued to evolve throughout the 16th and 17th centuries. Ninja were required to master kyujutsu (the art of the bow), and began by learning to rapidly hit targets on foot and horseback.
What if... Trotsky had come to power?

USSR, 1924

Written by Jack Griffiths

Joseph Stalin emerged strongest in the power vacuum left by Lenin’s death in the USSR. However, if fellow Politburo member Leon Trotsky had risen to power, things could have been very different. Professor Geoffrey Roberts believes the state would have still been under authoritarian rule, as this would have been required to maintain the communist grip on power. “He would have been a more moderate dictator, but there would have been a cult of Trotsky to bind the country together, ensuring loyalty to the system.”

The Trotsky-led USSR weathered the storm of the 1920s and 1930s using “the same brutal terroristic measures as Stalin, but maybe not quite as extreme.” Trotsky sees the use of Stalin as an ally, but also fears his influence in equal measure. To appease him, he is made a deputy to General Secretary Trotsky and plays the role that Vyacheslav Molotov did in the 1939 pact with Joachim von Ribbentrop and Nazi Germany. Regarding the Third Reich, Trotsky and Stalin would have acted in a similar way. “Both Stalin and Trotsky perceived the threat that Hitler and the Nazis posed. Trotsky saw the solution as more of an intense revolutionary struggle. Stalin took a more moderate cause in the anti-fascist alliance. Having said that, Trotsky took a more moderate view when he was in power after the revolution than he did when he was in opposition.”

As war dawned, Trotsky, who didn’t suffer from the same insecurities that plagued Stalin, wouldn’t have purged the Red Army. Roberts sees this as a possible handicap, as under Stalin, “Mikhail Tukhachevsky and his allies were replaced by generals who were younger, dynamic and more technically advanced.” Leadership wise, Trotsky and Stalin may well have been similar. “They both believed in a highly centralised military leadership, advocated a disciplinary regime and were prepared to use terror tactics to impose their will. However, I do think Stalin would have been better. He was a much more personable character. Trotsky was more aloof - a bit cold.”

The USSR wins the war, but in the first few years of the conflict, negativity towards Trotsky grows. Stalin sees an opportunity to assert his authority but Trotsky senses the threat and banishes him from the Soviet Union for life. However, the military are also firmly against him and the new breed of Red Army generals march on the Kremlin after the war’s end. “After the war, a challenge would have come to Trotsky from his generals, so the military may have moved against him. Trotsky may not have been as successful as Stalin in getting the power back from the military and to the party. He could have won the war but then been replaced by one of his generals.” Rather than a military dictatorship developing, the USSR is liberalised, having profound effects on the upcoming Cold War and the rise of Mao in China. Whatever happens, Trotsky is left to reflect as the Red Army marches on the Kremlin.

Professor Geoffrey Roberts
Historian, biographer and political commentator. Geoffrey Roberts is Professor of History at University College Cork, Ireland, and has written books on the USSR in World War II, the Soviet role in world politics and the Battle of Stalingrad. He is the author of a trilogy of books on prominent Soviet leaders: Stalin’s Wars: From World War To Cold War, 1939-1991 (2006), Molotov: Stalin’s Cold Warrior (2010), and Stalin’s General: The Life Of Georgy Zhukov (2012). Professor Roberts is a regular contributor to Irish and British newspapers and to Irish, British and Russian TV and radio programmes.

Alternative timeline

Death of Lenin
The revolutionary leader dies. Trotsky quotes Lenin’s Testament as the reason he should be the new leader. The majority agree. 21 January 1924

Rise of Trotsky
Trotsky becomes undisputed leader and organises Stalin, Kamenev and Zinoviev into his chosen political posts, with himself as general secretary of the Central Committee. 1924

The USSR under Trotsky
Two years in and the Bolshevik regime answers only to the cult of Trotsky in an authoritarian Soviet state. Trotsky outlines his very own five-year plan for the economy. 1927

The economy falters
The Soviet economy isn’t as developed as it would have been under Stalin due to an indecisive Trotsky. To silence him, Stalin is essentially put second in command. 1931

International relations
The Soviet Union is admitted to the League of Nations with Trotsky unable to get his idea for global communism off the ground. The Red Army is expanded with no purges. 1934
What if…
TROTSKY HAD COME TO POWER?

Might Trotsky’s dictatorship have ended in a military coup and his suicide?

- The Stalin-Ribbentrop pact
  Trotsky senses the danger of Hitler and moves to ease relations. Stalin is sent to negotiate as the two nations sign the pact of non-aggression. 23 August 1939

- Opening of the Eastern Front
  With the Red Army controlled by old-school generals, the Wehrmacht are very successful. Trotsky is under pressure as Tukachevsky is unable to deal with the Blitzkrieg. June 1941

- Turn of the tide
  The struggle continues on, but thanks to a lack of purges, the Red Army eventually gains the upper hand. However, it is in a critical condition. World War II will be a pyrrhic victory. 1943

- Trotsky under pressure
  The death toll of the war puts Trotsky’s popularity at an all-time low. Stalin attempts a coup but is unsuccessful. He is banished from the USSR for life as punishment. 1946

- End of the Trotsky regime
  Despite Stalin’s exile, the military leadership has had enough and stages a coup. Trotsky, seeing that all is lost, commits suicide in his office. A new era is about to begin. 1947
Hero or Villain?
Nearly a quarter of the Declaration of Independence draft that Jefferson wrote was removed by Congress.

Thomas Jefferson

He wrote the Declaration of Independence, but did Thomas Jefferson truly believe that all men are created equal?

Written by Scott Reeves

Thomas Jefferson's earliest memory was when, at the age of two, he was carried in the arms of a black slave to his family's new home - a tobacco plantation. During his childhood, it was expected that the young boy would grow up to become a typical Virginian slave owner, just like his father, but Thomas was keen to pursue a life beyond the plantation. He loved reading and had a keen interest in science, linguistics and natural history, and it was in law that he would first make his mark, being admitted to the Virginia bar in 1767.

It was a time of flux in North America. When the American Revolution began in 1775, Jefferson was appointed a Virginian representative in the Continental Congress at Philadelphia. He had been hand picked by John Adams, an early leader of the independence movement, to join him on a committee that was tasked with writing a Declaration of independence.

This was to be Jefferson's finest hour. He was asked to pen the draft that the committee discussed, and in doing so became the primary author of one of history's most iconic documents. However, Jefferson did not get it all his own way. His original draft stated: "We hold these truths to be sacred and undeniable, that all men are created equal and independent." It was Benjamin Franklin who rewrote the preamble, changing it to the famous: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal."

The Declaration of Independence was ratified by the Continental Congress on 4 July 1776, after which Jefferson returned to Virginia and saw out the rest of the American Revolution in local government. He supervised the creation of a state constitution and revised the legal system before becoming governor of Virginia. He was in charge when the British invaded and sacked the state capital, Richmond, in 1781; Jefferson narrowly escaped being captured by
the Redcoats. Had the author of the Declaration of Independence been imprisoned by the British, it would have been a huge propaganda victory for the colonial masters.

With the end of the war, Jefferson was again sent to Congress. The delegates were building a new country, and as one of the United States of America’s most renowned Founding Fathers, Jefferson was given a special task—dispatched as minister to France to solidify relations between the two nations. Jefferson spent four years in Paris until he was recalled in September 1789, just as the French Revolution was gathering pace, having witnessed the storming of the Bastille.

Jefferson was a firm supporter of the French Revolution and intended to return to France as soon as possible, but his plans changed when the new president, George Washington, asked him to serve as the first secretary of state. It was here, at the very heart of American politics, where Jefferson hoped to influence the future shape of his country.

Although the American Revolutionaries were united in their opposition to colonial rule from London, they were not in agreement as to how the new United States should function after independence. Two factions began to develop. One, led by Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton, wanted a strong, central, national government. They became known as the Federalists. Jefferson was alarmed by the mounting power of central government; instead he wanted greater rights for the individual states in the union. Like-minded individuals began to gather around him and became known as the Republicans.

Jefferson was unable to prevent the Federalists from dominating government and stepped down in 1793, stating a desire to return to family life. However, when George Washington declined to stand for a third term as president in 1796, the new country lost its unifying leader. Jefferson returned to the front line of politics, standing on a Republican platform in the presidential election, but lost out to his former revolutionary colleague and now Federalist opponent John Adams. The rules then in force stated that as he was the candidate with the second-highest number of votes, Jefferson would become vice-president.

Jefferson was still unable to prevent Federalist policies from being passed; however, and took the dramatic step of writing the Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions with his fellow Republican leader and political ally James Madison. They kept their authorship secret—for good reason. The resolutions they had penned declared that Congress could not exercise powers unless they were specifically granted by the states, and that the over-arching power of Congress could “necessarily drive these states into revolution and blood.” Jefferson was raising the possibility of rebellion against the government of which he was vice-president. Had his authorship of the resolutions been uncovered, he could have been impeached for treason.

Jefferson stood against Adams for a second time in the 1800 presidential election, this time beating him and becoming the third president of the United States of America. Jefferson resided in the White House for two terms, between 1801 and 1809, a period during which the United States expanded beyond the original 13 colonies. Under the Louisiana Purchase, 828,000 square miles were bought from France for $15 million, doubling the size of the country. Westward expansion also began, with Jefferson approving the Lewis and Clark expedition to the Pacific coast.

Back in Washington, DC, Jefferson was finally able to dismantle much of the Federalist system

“His ideas signalled a questionable attitude to other races”
When the original Library of Congress burned down, Jefferson offered his personal library as a replacement.

Rumours also abounded that Jefferson was in a long-term relationship with one of his own slaves, Sally Hemings, and had fathered several children by her. DNA evidence suggests this claim is likely to be true, although the proof is not conclusive. The relationship probably began after the early death of Jefferson’s wife, when she was aged just 33, possibly when Jefferson was minister to France and Hemings travelled there with Jefferson’s daughter. Jefferson embarked on 17 years of political retirement after leaving the White House in 1809, although he kept busy – educating and learning, he helped to found the University of Virginia. He died on 4 July 1826, 50 years to the day that his greatest achievement, the Declaration of Independence, was ratified. However, Jefferson was much more than just the author of the world’s most famous declaration. He not only helped to win independence for the American colonies, he was a key influence in helping to shape the United States as it is today and remains an American hero.

Was Thomas Jefferson a hero or a villain? Let us know what you think

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15 THINGS YOU PROBABLY DIDN’T KNOW ABOUT WOMEN IN WORLD WAR I

While the men were away fighting on the front line, Britain’s unsung heroes stood up to be counted.

80 PER CENT OF WEAPONS USED BY THE BRITISH ARMY WERE MADE BY WOMEN

The war had a profound effect on a woman’s role in the workplace. On the eve of the war, approximately 30 per cent of the nation’s workforce was female and the majority worked in textile manufacture. This changed entirely as the war stepped up a gear and the need for munitions production increased drastically. It wasn’t just shell production that boomed though. The number of women in the transport industry increased by a huge 555 per cent as women helped roll vehicles off the production line and into the warzones of World War I. Without this invaluable help, events such as the shell crisis of 1915 would surely have been worse and might even have happened again. The female input was so great that by 1917, 80 per cent of weapons used by the British Army had been made by Britain’s new army of women workers.
EXPOSURE TO TNT COULD TURN THE WORKERS YELLOW

The munitions industry was a big business, and workplace hazards only increased as the factories grew. One of the worst was the effect that explosive agent trinitrotoluene (TNT) had on anyone who worked with it. The explosive of choice for the British Army's cannons, TNT was produced in its droves. During its production, it was frequently handled by women who came to be known as 'canary girls', as exposure caused a condition called toxic jaundice that turned skin yellow. These workers had no protective clothing, and safety measures were often inadequate. Tragically, more than 400 women died from overexposure to TNT during the war. However, TNT wasn't the only danger. The lack of safety concerns and the handling of explosive materials was a dangerous mix, resulting in explosions in the factories. At Chilwell in Nottinghamshire, 134 people died in a blast that levelled the entire complex.

FACTORY WORKERS WERE KNOWN AS 'MUNITIONETTES'

The Munitions of War Act was passed in 1915 to give David Lloyd George, then minister of munitions, complete power over the industry. For supply to meet demand, unskilled female workers were brought into the fold. The huge influx of women led to these 'munitionettes' joining trade unions in their thousands. The most famous was led by trade unionist and women's rights campaigner Mary MacArthur, and helped raise safety concerns as well as increase women's pay. Mothers, wives, sisters, daughters and even grandmothers filled the void in the industry left by the men. The days were long and the work was repetitive as women engaged in physically demanding labour. The days were made easier through social activities but there were some trade unions that were against women working, as they believed it would lessen male wages after the war. Despite protests, it was obvious the British workplace was changing for the better.

THE WOMEN’S LAND ARMY HELPED SAVE BRITAIN FROM FAMINE

As Germany threatened Britain's supremacy on the seas, starvation through a naval blockade became a dangerous possibility. To last out the war, Britain had to become more self-sufficient. The Board of Agriculture set up the Women's Land Army (WLA) in 1915, employing women to work the land, drive tractors, and plough and drain fields. The working week could be up to 50 hours long and each worker was paid £1.12 per week. After a poor harvest and destruction of supply vessels by German U-boats in 1917, famine loomed as Britain was down to its last three weeks of food reserves. However, starvation was averted and rationing was introduced in London in early 1918. More than 200,000 women were working on the land by 1918, as the WLA continued to help stave off the possibility of famine.

By 1918, the average female wage in the munitions industry was £2 and two shillings. This was less than half the £4 and six shillings men were paid.
200,000 WOMEN TOOK UP JOBS IN GOVERNMENT

Britain’s new female workforce excelled themselves in the factories and out in the fields, but they also took jobs in government. Due to the lack of men, women were given the opportunity to work in jobs they would have previously been excluded from. High-up positions took women away from the monotonous work they were used to and helped them prove to politicians that they were worthy of the vote and equal rights.

Things began slowly as the Liberal government only created a register for women to work in March 1915. 80,000 signed up immediately but there just wasn’t enough work available. As a result, many took it upon themselves to find work, getting jobs as ambulance drivers, bus conductors and bank clerks. The female workforce had started to mobilise.

THE SUFFRAGETTES CHANGED TACT...

Emmeline Pankhurst and the suffragettes saw the war as an opportunity. By scaling down their own campaigning and focusing on helping the government, they would prove just how capable women could be. Active campaigning was used once in the ‘Right to Serve’ protest, but the remainder of the Women’s Social and Political Union’s (WSPU) energy was geared towards a patriotic stand against the threat of the Central Powers. The new direction caused a split in the WSPU. Emmeline and her daughter Christabel were staunch advocates of ending militant activity and supporting the war, but Christabel’s sisters, Sylvia and Adela, weren’t on the same page. Both pacifists, they made efforts to maintain peace, with Sylvia helping form the Women’s Peace Army and Adela setting up the Australian branch of the organisation. The 1918 Representation of the People Act proved both strategies had been in some way successful.

On the front line

Just three of the army of British women who travelled with the men to fight for Britain

Edith Cavell

Perhaps the most famous nurse of the entire war, Edith Cavell is said to have helped more than 200 Allied soldiers escape from German-occupied Belgium into the neutral Netherlands. Cavell cared for soldiers on both sides. But was captured by German officials and shot by a firing squad in October 1915.

Flora Sandes

Just being a nurse wasn’t enough for the headstrong Flora Sandes, who enlisted as a Serbian Army soldier. Leaving as soon as Austria-Hungary declared war, Sandes volunteered to work in an ambulance unit. Even when Serbia was invaded, she followed the new government-in-exile to Corfu as part of the Ionian Regiment.

Evelina Haverfield

The former suffragette was described by Sylvia Pankhurst as “cold and proud”. A determined and active WSPU member, upon the outbreak of the war, Haverfield put all her energy into helping in the conflict. She founded the Women’s Emergency Corps, which became influential in helping women become doctors, nurses and motorcycle messengers.

...AND SO DID THE SUFFRAGISTS

Like the suffragettes, the National Union of Women’s Suffrage Societies (NUWSS) endured a split in its organisation. In February 1915, the NUWSS leader Millicent Fawcett realised that talks of peace were futile and decided not to support the Women’s Peace Congress. This divided the organisation, with many women sticking to their pacifist guns. As the war raged on, Fawcett, taking a leaf out of the suffragettes’ book, ensured the NUWSS helped fund and set up women’s hospital units in France, as well as helping form the Women’s Emergency Corps and the Women’s Volunteer Reserve. One action the group didn’t take part in, though, was the White Feather Campaign, which actively persuaded men to join the armed forces. The NUWSS also carried on campaigning peacefully. It is without doubt that the hard work of the suffragettes and suffragists during the war was integral in the gaining of the vote for women.
PROPAGANDA TARGETED AND EXPLOITED WOMEN

Pro-war and anti-German posters were abundant in World War I, but propagandists also saw the benefit of including women in their work. Some appealed directly to women to encourage them to contribute to the war effort, but others used women as a tool to encourage more men to sign up to fight.

BRITISH WOMEN SERVED ON THE WESTERN FRONT AS NURSES AND SOLDIERS

The input of the Voluntary Aid Detachment (VAD) and the Women's Hospital Corps (WHC) has been underrated. Members of these groups served as drivers and nurses, tending to the legions of men who were lying injured in field hospitals. These hospitals were founded and run by women in both France and Belgium, and the soldiers who went home were sent to the Endell Street Military Hospital, which treated a total of 26,000 patients and performed more than 7000 major operations.

One woman actually enlisted in the army under the alias Denis Smith. Dorothy Lawrence only remained ten days in the ranks of a tunnelling company before she gave herself in after concerns for the company's safety. After interrogation, she was condescendingly thought to have been a 'camp follower', or prostitute. As well as on the Western Front, many British women joined the fight as far afield as Serbia and Russia.

A FEMALE AUXILIARY CORPS WAS SET UP

Not everyone was like Dorothy Lawrence and joined up with the male rank and file. The Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC) only began in 1917 but quickly proved itself to be an effective wartime organisation. Recommended by Lieutenant-General H Lawson, far more women applied than anticipated and would be rewarded with a minimum pay of 24 shillings a week. It was structured into four units: Cookery, Mechanical, Clerical and Miscellaneous. The influx took the pressure off men performing 'soft jobs' in the army and allowed them to fight on the front while women worked behind the lines. A total of 57,000 women served in the corps but, despite its success, there was still resistance to the WAAC. British newspapers falsely claimed that large numbers of women were pregnant through relationships with soldiers, even though an official investigation found this to be grossly exaggerated. The WAAC was disbanded in 1921 but restarted again as the Auxiliary Territorial Service in World War II.
FEMALE VOLUNTEERS TAUGHT MEN HOW TO USE FIREARMS

The Women’s Defence Relief Corps consisted of two divisions, the civil section and the lesser-known semi-military section. The latter division gave women the chance to undergo drills, marching and signalling as well as instruction in the use of firearms. This training in military values did much for the White Feather Campaign and helped convince men to join up for the fight. The Local Defence Volunteers (LDV) were the predecessors of the Home Guard in World War II. The organisation employed women to help men train to fire weapons. Additionally, the Bolton War Hospital Supply Depot represented another way women could contribute to the war from back home. More than 20,000 packages were sent to men on the front from this one depot alone as women did their best to make life easier for their husbands away at war.

THE FIRST POLICEWOMEN WENT ON THE BEAT

Originally known as Women’s Patrols, the first female police officers helped maintain discipline and monitor workplace behaviour while war raged in Europe. They were mainly found in factories, but the force also worked in public areas such as railway stations, parks, cinemas and pubs. Despite being part of the police, these officers didn’t have the power to arrest and could only present evidence in court on behalf of a male officer. Margaret Dahmer Dawson and Mary Sophia Allen were instrumental in the formation of the Women’s Police Volunteers. Taking the mantle from the National Union of Working Women, who had set up 5,000 voluntary patrols, the group soon morphed into the Women’s Police Service and were put on duty in all major cities, adopting short haircuts and an army-like hierarchy.

BRITAIN’S FIRST FEMALE-LED STRIKE TOOK PLACE

Women’s trade union membership increased dramatically during the war; there was a 160 per cent rise in female members. The unions that benefited most were the National Federation of Women Workers and the Worker’s Union (WU). By 1918, the WU had 20 full-time female officials and a female membership of more than 80,000 - a quarter of the union’s entire membership. A few months before the end of the war, female workers on London buses and trams led a strike, demanding equal pay - the first in the UK to be initiated and won by women. The strike spread to the Underground and other towns across the country. This showed the power women could wield when part of an organisation, and was a total departure from the pre-war years, when 90 per cent of women weren’t part of a union.
A global revolution

It wasn't just British women who did their country proud in the Great War

**Germany**

Just like Britain, Germany found itself in need of a labour force as men were put forward onto the Western and Eastern fronts. Food blockades by the Allied forces just made things worse for the families left at home without a husband or a father. Youth and female employment increased drastically to provide the men with munitions. After the war, children and teenagers benefited more than women as they began to rely less on their parents and could find work more easily in the interwar period. Society, stood still for women, however, who were still treated as inferior to men in the workplace.

**USA**

World War I saw the employment of 3 million women in the food, textile and war industries in the USA. With the men abroad, American women took jobs as streetcar conductors and radio operators, and kept the factories up and running. Firms that usually specialised in car production or clothing were converted into tank and uniform factories respectively. Additionally, 11,000 women served abroad as nurses. World War I was the first war to officially allow women to serve. The navy in particular was struggling to cope with demand, and the Naval act of 1916 allowed women to sign up and serve as "Yeomen."

**Russia**

Going further than any other country, Russia mobilised women within the army. By 1917, segregated units were created by the tsar in an effort to win the war and turn the social and political tide. These female soldiers became media celebrities in their home country. The infamous Women’s Death Battalion was created by Maria Bochkareva and went on to fight in the trenches of the Austro-Hungarian front after the men had abandoned it. The battalion even went as far as defending the Winter Palace in Petrograd from Bolshevik forces. Because of this, they are sparsely mentioned in the history of the USSR.

Married women struggled to find work in peacetime more so than their single counterparts.

**SINGLE WOMEN FOUND THEMSELVES AT AN ADVANTAGE AFTER THE WAR**

The loss of 750,000 British men in the war had a drastic effect on the lives of British women. Newspapers printed stories of a so-called ‘surplus of women’ that would never find husbands after the high wartime casualties. However, remaining single did have its benefits. After the war, single women had much better job prospects than married ones. A wife who saw her husband return home would most likely have to nurse him back to health, which could hamper her chances of finding work. Some professions, such as teaching, only allowed single women to apply. The Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act of 1919 helped end this, but only one in ten married women were in work by the 1930s.

**WOMEN’S FOOTBALL KICKED OFF**

As women started to work together in large numbers, social and sporting events began to spring up. Of all the social gatherings, football was the pastime that really became popular. Factory bosses actively encouraged sport, as it improved the workers’ health and wellbeing. The friendly activity soon turned into competition, and several teams were formed. One of the most famous teams was Dick, Kerr’s Ladies FC, who played in Preston. Formed in 1917, the club drew a crowd of 10,000 people for their first match. Later that year, the Munitionettes cup was won by Blyth Spartans, with striker Bella Reay scoring a hat-trick. The women’s game reached a peak when 54,000 spectators crammed into Goodison Park on Boxing Day 1920. Sadly, women’s football was banned in 1921, as it was expected that women would return to the household. Despite its wartime popularity, women’s football would not officially return until the ban was lifted 50 years later, in 1971.
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Greatest Battles

Highland Charge
In the shock tactic of the Jacobite army, the men would throw themselves at the enemy at top speed, brandishing broadswords, shields, pistols and daggers while screaming a war cry. It was intended to intimidate the enemy and get Jacobites into close quarters, where their ferocity could be unleashed.

Close order
In anticipation of the dreaded Highland Charge, Cumberland had drilled his men to combat it. They were instructed to hold their fire until the Jacobites were within effective firing range, fire one volley, and then bayonet the man to the right thereby catching the enemy under their lifted sword arm and bypassing their shield.

End of an era
A Jacobite was someone who supported King James VII (of Scotland) and II (of England) and his descendants from the House of Stuart in their claims to the British throne. The word comes from Jacobus, which is Latin for James - therefore, Jacobite means follower of James.

Tartan
Contrary to popular belief, none of the clans at Culloden wore specific clan tartan. This did not begin until George IV's visit to Scotland in 1822 and the revival of Highland culture. The tartan that was worn would have been differentiated by region, with local materials deciding the colours that were used.
Highland vs Lowland
A common misconception is that the Jacobite Rebellions were conflicts fought between England and Scotland. There were men from both countries on each side, with French and Irish also entering the fray.

Greatest Battles

The Battle of Culloden
Inverness, Northern Scotland
16 April 1746

There were three attempts by the descendants of the Stuart King James VII and II to reclaim the throne of Scotland and England, and they are known as the Jacobite Rebellions. The third and final attempt was made by the exiled Charles Edward Stuart, better known as the 'Young Pretender' or 'Bonnie Prince Charlie. With the Austrian Wars of Succession raging in Europe, the Bonnie Prince, the exiled grandson of James VII, saw his opportunity and sailed for Scotland intent on reclaiming what he saw as his birthright. Landing in the Highlands of Scotland with only a handful of men, Charles used the promise of French aid and his own charm to win the nobility of Scotland round to his cause. The Bonnie Prince's standard was raised at Glenfinnan on 19 August 1745; the rebellion against the Hanoverian King George II had begun.

Moving quickly, the Young Pretender soon delivered Edinburgh into Jacobite hands, and would score a decisive defeat over the royal army at the Battle of Prestonpans. Everything was looking up for the young prince as his army marched into England. He hoped that a quick victory would gain him support from the English Jacobites as the majority of the government army were fighting on the continent. They penetrated deep into England and by December had reached Derby, only 125 miles from London. However, lack of support from English Jacobites and pressure from the Duke of Cumberland's force meant that the Bonnie Prince had to withdraw north for fear of losing his army.

On returning to Scotland, the Jacobites again vanquished the government forces at Falkirk on 17 January 1746. Due to the confusion that followed, however, the Jacobites were not able to capitalise on their victory and the decision was made to withdraw further north. There they would gather their strength over the winter months and the Jacobite campaign would start again in the spring. Hearing of the government's defeat at Falkirk, Cumberland, who had recently returned from campaigning in Europe, raced north to take command of the royal army. The Jacobites' campaign in Scotland had left their forces stretched thin, so when the Bonnie Prince decided to meet Cumberland for the battle, a move that his advisers warned against, he was not in the strongest position he could have been.

The two forces met at Culloden Moor, near to Nairn and Inverness, where the boggy ground was unfavourable to the Jacobites who relied on a fierce charge to break their enemies. Cumberland had the advantage in artillery and had drilled his men to face the charge of the Jacobites. It was these, and other factors, that led to the Hanoverian forces completely routing the Jacobites on the field.

After the battle was over, the government forces harried the Jacobites mercilessly across the country. Because of the atrocities that were committed on his orders, the Duke of Cumberland earned himself the name 'Butcher'. Bonnie Prince Charlie, dejected and defeated, would eventually be smuggled out of Scotland to France. While escaping, he sailed to Skye and inspired the popular folk song 'The Skye Boat Song'. Europe would be both the prince's and his cause's final resting place; there would never be another Stuart attempt on the throne.
Greatest Battles

01 Time to engage
With the campaign stretching its forces out across the Highlands, the Jacobite army does not meet the government troops with its full strength. Despite being urged by his advisers to retreat, the Bonnie Prince disregards their advice and pushes on to engage Cumberland’s forces on unsuitable ground. With his weaker position, Charles would need to plan well if he had any chance of victory.

02 In the black of night
Eager to catch the enemy forces flatfooted, the Jacobites plan a bold night raid on the Hanoverian camp. In the pitch black, the two columns that had been dispatched get separated and many men become lost in the rough terrain. Fearing the element of surprise has passed, the officers call the attack off, leaving the defeated, tired and hungry Jacobites to trudge back to their lines.

03 Battle lines drawn
Exhausted from the botched raid, the Jacobite line up against the fresh and ready Hanoverians. The government forces are in high spirits having celebrated the duke’s 25th birthday.

04 Cracks begin to show
The right wing of the Jacobite army skirts a swamp that is blocking its path and attempts to move into a more favourable position without express orders. This disrupts the entire line and leads to large gaps opening in the Jacobite army, leaving it exposed to enemy fire.

05 Cannons blaze
The Duke of Cumberland orders his superior artillery to open fire. Waiting for the Hanoverians to advance, Bonnie Prince Charlie lets his forces wither under the fire for 30 minutes. While the marshy terrain keeps casualties to a minimum, the fire begins to take a toll on the Jacobites’ morale. The Highland chiefs, furious at this inaction, press for a charge and the ability to take the fight to the enemy.

Prince Charles Edward Stuart
Leader
Son to the exiled king James II, the young prince is eager to win the throne back from George II. Strengths: Personal charm and a strong claim to the throne. Weakness: Poor decisions ultimately led to his defeat.

Highlander Unit
With experience in the military and skirmishes with neighbouring clans, these men were tough warriors. Strengths: The devastating Highland Charge. Weakness: Hot-headed and not always willing to follow orders.

Broadsword Key Weapon
Although not carried by all Jacobites, the broadsword was lethal in close combat. Strengths: Brutal and deadly in close quarters. Weakness: Its extremely limited range made the wielder vulnerable to musket and cannon fire.

Jacobites
Troops: 7,000
The Battle of Culloden

10 Slaughter on the battlefield
As the smoke clears on the field, the order comes down from Cumberland to execute any wounded Jacobite the government soldiers can find. In the following weeks, a vicious hunt is carried that sees both Jacobites and locals murdered and imprisoned. This bloody act will earn Cumberland the name 'Butcher'.

9 Fall back!
Despite this, and with the Jacobite line crumbling before him, the Bonnie Prince, safe at his vantage point at the rear of the army, calls the retreat. With a rearguard action being fought by the Royal Ecosseals and Irish picquets, the Jacobite army retires defeated and bloodied from the field.

8 Pressing the advantage
Seeing the Jacobites left flank deteriorating, Cumberland decides to press the advantage. Dragoons are sent in to hound the struggling Jacobites. The boggy ground does not lend itself well to horses, though, and they make slow progress.

7 Breaking the lines
Fierce fighting rages as both sides fight in a vicious mêlée. The ferocious Jacobites are formidable warriors, but are held at bay by the disciplined Redcoats. Some of the Jacobites break through the first government line, but are met with a nasty surprise. Anticipating the breakthrough, a second line has been drawn up and peppers the Jacobites with musket fire, forcing them to withdraw to their own lines.

6 The charge begins
The Jacobites rush forward and break upon the government lines in a clash of steel and crack of musket fire. The left flank is lagging behind with the McDonalds rumoured to have declined to charge, insulted that they were not given a better position on the battlefield. This would prove to be a fatal decision, as due to the greater distance they had to cover, they would be cut down by musket and cannon fire.

Hanoverians

DUKE OF CUMBERLAND
LEADER
Son of the monarch George II, the duke was eager to prove himself on the battlefield.

TROOPS 8,000

Strengths Strict discipline ensured his men followed orders.
Weaknesses His merciless treatment of wounded men earned him enmity in both Scotland and England.

REDCOAT
UNIT
Trained to fight as a cohesive unit, the men of the king's regiments were ready to repel the Jacobite rebels.

Strengths Rigid training ensured they fought as a cohesive unit.
Weaknesses Lacking the individual prowess of a Highland warrior.

MUSKET
KEY WEAPON
Able to fire three rounds a minute and coming with an attachable bayonet, the musket was a versatile weapon on the battlefield.

Strengths Ranged fire could prove deadly to advancing infantry.
Weaknesses Its bulky nature made it less effective in close quarters.
On 23 December 1787, HMS Bounty left Spithead bound for Tahiti. The ship sailed into history thanks to the mutiny that engulfed it, as crewmen led by Fletcher Christian set Commanding Lieutenant William Bligh and his loyal followers adrift on the open sea, forcing them to undertake a monumental nautical journey.

Written by Catherine Curzon
Hollywood has told the story of Bounty three times, recognising a tale of good versus evil that’s just too good to ignore. But did the sadistic Bligh really leave the once-loyal Christian with no choice but to mutiny? Were lives at risk under a madman’s command or would the facts simply have stood in the way of a good yarn?

Although Australia brought the story of the Bounty mutiny to cinema audiences in 1916 and 1933, it was Hollywood that turned it into a phenomenon. The first of a trio of American films to tell the tale was the 1935 hit *Mutiny On The Bounty*. Nearly three decades later in 1962, a second film with the same title brought the story back to the public eye, and 1984’s *The Bounty*, which aimed for greater accuracy, introduced the tale to a new generation of cinemagoers. Even today, the popular images of Bligh and Christian owe much to the actors who portrayed them and the films that told their story.

Audiences in 1935 and 1962 were treated to a tale of unimaginable abuse of power, with Bligh a sadist who revelled in the violent humiliation of innocent men. Keelhaulings and floggings were commonplace and the brave Christian mutinied only when discipline tipped over into murder. 1984’s adaptation saw audiences sitting down to a more accurate version of events with the single-minded Bligh turning to disciplinarian methods to control a fractious crew, who pined for their Tahitian paradise. But where do fiction and fact meet and what really happened when Bligh and Christian clashed head on?

One thing that all are agreed on is that the mission of Bounty was to travel to Tahiti to collect breadfruit plants, which would be used as a foodstuff for slaves. It was a simple enough undertaking, especially in the hands of the experienced, respected Bligh and his handpicked crew of 45. Among that fateful bunch was Fletcher Christian, who had sailed under Bligh
on two previous occasions and enjoyed a warm relationship with his senior officer. He was aboard Bounty being mentored by Bligh without pay, and during the voyage would be promoted to the rank of acting lieutenant.

Although Hollywood would have us believe that Bligh was a tyrant or, at best, an obsessive disciplinarian, he was no harder than many others in his position. Schooled in his early career by Captain James Cook, Bligh believed in a system that was firm but certainly fair. Under his watch, men were given adequate rest and rations, exercise and entertainment, in return for adhering to strict rules and performing the duties required of them. Discipline was enforced when necessary, but if this meant a trouble-free voyage, then the crew were happy to go along with it.

The sadist of the 1935 and 1962 films is nowhere to be found in Bligh’s meticulous logs, and when Matthew Quintal was flogged in March 1788 for mutinous behaviour, he was the exception and not the rule. Punishment on board Bligh’s vessels was a fact of life as it was on any ship, and when the lash was used, the deed was never undertaken lightly.

Still, even those with the highest morale were bound to suffer in the face of a voyage as hellish as that encountered by Bounty as it sailed for Cape Horn. Strong winds and violent storms battered the ship, forcing it further and further behind in its schedule. Finally convinced that battling on was a recipe for disaster, Bligh told his exhausted crew that they would change course and navigate instead via the Cape of Good Hope.

The men rejoiced and, so far, all seemed rosy again aboard the storm-lashed Bounty. In fact, when the ship anchored in April 1788 to take on board fresh provisions, Bligh was proud of how high morale had remained, despite the hardships of the months at sea. Christian and Bligh were so close by this point that the older man made a monetary loan to his trusted comrade, placing Christian in his debt. Perhaps this sowed a seed of resentment in the younger man, but if it did, no evidence exists to suggest so.

When Bounty set sail once more, it was with a rejuvenated crew, yet as the months passed, conflict flared. The first sign of trouble came when Bligh clashed with the ship’s carpenter, William Purcell, during a stopover in
Tasmania. When Purcell refused Bligh's orders to return to the ship after a disagreement, the captain threatened to withhold the carpenter's rations until he backed down. Less than three months later, as Bounty continued towards Tahiti, Bligh faced conflict with other members of the crew including the ship's surgeon Thomas Hoggan, an indolent drunkard who had managed to kill one of the patients in his care.

These resentments were set aside when Bounty reached Tahiti on 26 October 1788. Here, the ship was warmly received by chieftains who were happy to supply the requested breadfruit plants. Welcomed ashore by the natives, when the crew's feet touched land, the once-disciplined men ran a little wild. Nearly half the men, including Christian, contracted venereal disease while on Tahiti. Though Bligh did not indulge, he didn't intervene either, willing to turn a blind eye as long as the crew performed their naval duties on top of their extra-curricular fun.

Soon the men were neglecting vital tasks, and Bligh wrote that he had never known such "neglectful and worthless petty officers." He urged his men to keep their minds on the mission, and with more than 1,000 breadfruit plants to bring aboard, the crew had no choice but to go to work.

It was with heavy hearts that the crew of Bounty left Tahiti on 5 April 1789, and the mood on the ship darkened in turn. Bligh and Christian seemed to clash constantly, with the captain accusing the acting lieutenant of coconut theft, among other wrongs. When a landing at Nomuka ended in conflict with the natives, Bligh laid the blame at Christian's feet. Every transgression was met with strict sanctions, withheld rations and furious remonstrations, and the once-respectful Christian grew resentful and sullen as he assessed the mood among his fellow crewmen.

Brooding resentment was not nearly dramatic enough for the filmmakers of 1935 and 1962, who dreamed up some suitably cinematic conflicts to fuel the mutiny. In the 1935 film, Bligh claps men in irons and deprives them of water until Christian finally snaps, while in the 1962 remake, the crazed captain kills a man by keelhauling him and threatens Christian with the noose. With nothing left to lose and egged on by a crewman that the captain has framed for theft, Christian takes command of Bounty.

Even the more accurate 1984 retelling sees Christian convinced by more radical crew members to lead a mutiny, with Bligh's obsessive behaviour leading to a life of discipline and hard physical labour for the men in his command.

Before dawn on 28 April, Christian and a few trusted followers armed themselves and secured the captain, threatening to kill him should he raise
the alarm. As commotion broke out on board, the mutineers and loyalists eventually divided into two camps, and although it was clear that the mutineers were not necessarily the larger group, they were certainly the better armed.

With Christian now in command of Bounty, Bligh and his 18 followers were crowded onto a boat that had room for just ten. Loaded with meagre rations and basic navigational tools, the small boat was set adrift. Bligh, ever the captain, instructed his crew to make for the temporary safety of a nearby island. However, their respite was brief, with hostile natives killing a member of the landing party and chasing them back out to sea.

Plagued by stormy weather and assailed by enormous waves, Bligh navigated his vessel through the treacherous waters, stopping only occasionally to gather scant provisions to stave off starvation. Hungry, disheartened and certain that they were doomed, morale on the tiny vessel plummeted as the men began to fear that Bligh was steering them to their deaths.

On they sailed with Bligh at the helm, starving, exhausted and hopeless, battered by a merciless sea and burned by an unforgiving sun. Yet, against the odds, Bligh's navigational experience proved itself, and on 14 June 1789, the men sailed into the sanctuary of Coupang harbour at Timor. Bligh reported the loss of Bounty and sent letters home telling the story of the mutiny.

What, then, had become of Christian and his fellow mutineers? With Tahiti the first place the authorities would look for them should Bligh survive, Christian initially attempted to land on Tubuai, where his efforts were repelled by natives. Forced back to Tahiti, he falsely told the chieftains that Bligh and Captain Cook, who was long since dead, were founding a new settlement and needed provisions. With the vessel generously laden and more than two dozen Tahitians joining the voyage, Bounty returned to Tubuai and further violent clashes followed, all of which chipped away at Christian's already perilous authority.

When a vote was held that established that the majority of the mutineers wanted to return to Tahiti, Christian had no choice but to comply. Of these men, some were later brought back to England to face trial, while others died on the island. The remainder of the mutineers and the Polynesians they had conned into joining them eventually settled on Pitcairn, burning Bounty to ash. As the years passed, the resentment that had festered between the misled Polynesians and the mutineers exploded into violence. Among the casualties was Christian, and the true circumstances of his death remain a mystery.

This is a far cry from the 1935 depiction of Pitcairn as a place of freedom and democracy, or that of 1962, where the guilt-ridden Christian dies a martyr in the burning Bounty as he attempts to return to England and testify against Bligh. Once again, 1984's *The Bounty* fares better, with the crew facing an uncertain future on the secluded island, Christian neither martyr nor hero, but a young man with more passion than sense, swept along by his own arrogance and ambition.

Bligh, meanwhile, was hailed a hero when he returned to England, feted for his mastery of the ocean and remarkable leadership of the men in the open boat. Initially court-martialled for losing his ship, he was cleared of blame and continued his career, eventually gaining the rank of vice admiral of the Blue.
satisfy the hunger for action. Life on Bounty was a world away from the movie world of brutalised crews and fatal punishments, with lashings few and far between, while keelhauling would have been unthinkable to Bligh, so outdated was the punishment by the time Bounty sailed.

For audiences in 1935 and 1962, the mutiny on Bounty was a fairytale of good versus evil, where power runs rampant and men brutalised by an unforgiving madman look to a hero to save them, all against the travelogue background of an Earthly paradise. Those who sat down to The Bounty in 1984 were treated to a more balanced view of events, a world in which friends were pulled apart by ambition and resentment. There was no sadist reveling in the violent punishment of innocent men, but a captain of experience who believed that discipline was the way to a happy ship and let his obsession with duty cloud his good judgment.

All three films tell a riveting and entertaining tale, but none of them are as fascinating as the reality. The true story of the mutiny on the Bounty is one of friends torn apart, survival against all odds and the violent end of an island idyll so much more dramatic than fiction.
Through History

NAVIGATION

Today, finding your way is as simple as taking out your phone. But before the dawn of GPS, people had to find their way using just the Sun and stars. See how navigation has changed over the years.

MAP 7000 BCE
When maps came into existence, or whether they were 'invented' at all is hard to deduce, as there isn't a clear definition of a map. Mapmaking, or cartography, is considered to be as much an exact science as an art. Cartography as a way to communicate spatial information is thought to date back to the 7th millennium BCE, with a wall painting of the ancient city Çatalhöyük. However, it is thought that the Greeks revolutionised the creation of maps, as shown by artefacts found from the Byzantine era, notably the works of scholar Claudius Ptolemy, who was one of the first to attempt conic projections.

COMPASS 206-220 BCE
The compass works by using a suspended magnetic needle that is attracted to the Earth's North Pole. Earth in itself works like a magnet, and the south pole of a magnet is attracted to the north pole of another. Use of this basic mechanism occurs at several points in history, in various parts of the world. The earliest evidence of a compass was in 206 BCE in the Chinese Han Dynasty, although it wasn't used by European sailors until the 13th century. Ships became equipped with a far more precise mounted compass in the 19th century, and at the turn of the 20th century, the gyroscopic compass was invented.

ASTROLABE 200 BCE
The astrolabe, first and foremost, was a beautiful piece of craftsmanship, usually made out of bronze or similar valuable materials. It was a device used for making calculations and astronomical measurements, and in that respect worked much like an analog computer, such as a slide rule or nomogram. It was commonly used in the Middle Ages and had many purposes, among which were astronomy and astrology. For the purpose of navigation, however, it was used to calculate the altitude and position of celestial bodies. It could then be used to deduce the local time, or, using a process called triangulation, the navigator’s position. Triangulation uses angles, geometry, and mathematical calculations to deduce position based on celestial bodies, bearing a resemblance to celestial navigation.

SUNSTONE 8TH-11TH CENTURY
The Vikings were determined explorers and settlers, and used a gem called a sunstone to determine their position on the water. The gem was said to create a double refraction of sunlight, even when it was overcast, which helped determine the position of the Sun if the holder rotated the stone until the shadows created by the double refraction appeared equal. Whether such a stone really existed has been contested for many years, and while a stone bearing its resemblance was found in an Elizabethan shipwreck in 1633, the truth behind its existence and functionality remains a mystery. However, it appears in Viking folklore often enough to assume Norsemen had faith in its guidance.
**SEXTANT** 1730

The sextant came after the astrolabe, and would undoubtedly not have existed without its predecessor. It’s a precise instrument used to measure the angle between two objects, usually used to calculate the distance between the horizon and the Sun with great precision. The concept behind it is the same as celestial navigation, taking the angle or sight to calculate a position line, but the sextant made the process much simpler and far more exact. It can also be used to calculate the distance between two landmarks if held horizontally. Though the concept for it was found in Isaac Newton’s notes, it wasn’t put to use until 1730.

“Mapmaking, or cartography, is considered to be as much an exact science as an art”

**GYROCOMPASS** 1906

The north that a standard compass points to is based on magnetic attraction, and thus points to the Earth’s magnetic North Pole. However, this is not the geographical north that we understand on maps. The gyrocompass was invented to make up for this inaccuracy and point to the true north, and doesn’t use the magnetic properties of Earth at all; instead it uses Earth’s rotation. A main component of the gyrocompass is the gyroscope, a spinning disc that is unaffected by tilting the device, as it is free to rotate on all three axes.

**SONAR** 1906

To understand how sonar works, one only needs to look towards nature and observe how a dolphin uses echolocation to find its prey. Sonar uses the concept of soundwaves bouncing off nearby objects to navigate, and thus makes use of the echo. Throughout history, sonar has primarily been used for military purposes, but the first sonar device was invented in 1906 by a naval architect Lewis Nixon, and was intended to increase safety by detecting icebergs. It was appropriated for military purposes in World War I as the need to detect enemy submarines became more pressing. Paul Langevin was responsible for the first sonar to detect submarines in 1915.

**LORAN** 1940

You’ll be excused if you’ve never heard of the LORAN – it wasn’t used for very long (between the 1940s and 1970s) and, due to its expense, was mainly used for military purposes, never commercially. The LORAN was a radio navigation system that used radio frequencies. Stations on land would emit radio signals, and based on calculations of how long a signal took to be picked up in comparison to signals from other stations, it could be used to determine position. It was also often used to broadcast distress signals.

**SAT NAV** 1973

The most commonly used form of navigation today, satellite navigation provides a service also known as GPS - Global Positioning Service. It actually works in a similar manner to the LORAN - if you imagine the stations to be in space. It deduces a position by receiving radio frequencies from multiple orbiting satellites, and is capable of giving extra information such as speeds and local time. It can actually be seen as a modern, sophisticated version of triangulation, as it uses the position of artificial celestial bodies to make a calculation towards its current position. A huge range of devices now come with GPS tracking capabilities, including keyrings and dog collars.
REVIEWS

All About History on the books, TV shows and films causing a stir in the history world

NAGASAKI: LIFE AFTER NUCLEAR WAR

Delve into the lives of survivors from the bomb that ended the war

Author Susan Southard Publisher Souvenir Press Ltd Price £20 Released Out now

When the second atomic bomb detonated over Nagasaki just three days after the first had obliterated Hiroshima, the devastation was absolute. 74,000 people were instantly killed and another 75,000 were injured, but that was just the beginning of the horrors the bomb would cause.

In the agonising aftermath, tens of thousands contracted radiation sickness, and malnutrition became as big a killer as the bomb itself. The residents of Hiroshima and Nagasaki became known as hibakusha, which translates as ‘the atomic bomb affected people’, and were now marked with more than just disease - there was also a social stigma that made them the lowest of the low.

Many were horribly disfigured, causing children to run away from them in the streets, worried that they were monsters. For the many Japanese doctors that tried to ease the suffering of the victims, information on the atomic bomb and its effects on the body remained censored by the American government into the early 1950s.

This book focuses on the lives of five members of the hibakusha, as well as recounting the details of that fateful day and looking at the repercussions it had for Nagasaki, its people and the world. Although Southard goes years beyond the bombing on 9 August 1945, it’s the initial days, weeks and months after the attack that are the most gripping, as the reality of the bomb’s effects become clearer and clearer in morbid detail.

From the first few chapters, it’s clear that the author has poured herself into the creation of this book - it is well researched and engaging from the outset. Among the immense devastation in the city, Southard’s book is about the incredible courage and will to survive shown by those who lived to tell their tale.

The author does an excellent job of giving both sides to the story, and makes you question whether or not the atomic bombs were necessary to end World War II, clearly highlighting why we must take every possible precaution against a similar event happening in the future.

Overall, it’s both upsetting and exhilarating to read. The style is quite dry, but this is somewhat unavoidable considering the subject matter, and doesn’t take away from all the great facts and information this book is littered with.

Although it is a historical book, it’s a million miles away from the previous drab accounts of the events in Nagasaki - the real-life stories keep you hooked from the start to the very end. The photos included in the book are not for the faint hearted, but clearly illustrate the injuries sustained and the destruction caused.

It’s incredible to think that this happened only 70 years ago, yet many of us know very little about what really went on during this harrowing event (much was censored for decades after World War II ended). What’s apparent from the off is that Southard is not interested in sugar-coating the horrors of the bombing, but would rather have the true story of this massacre remembered, and the courageous stories of those who survived highlighted for the world to see.

“Southard’s book is about the incredible courage and will to survive shown by those who lived”
JASPER TUDOR: DYNASTY MAKER
The unknown Tudor
Author Terry Breverton Publisher Amberley Price £9.99 Released Out now

Jasper Tudor seems to have passed through history overlooked, but the half brother of Henry VI was an integral part of the Wars of the Roses, as Breverton’s book details.

Taking the reader from the very beginning of his life, covering the circumstances surrounding his family at the time of his birth, noting the causes of the warring families of York and Lancaster and ending with his death in 1497, Breverton’s scope is wide.

In the chapters dedicated to Jasper and his older brother Edmund’s youth, Breverton explores their mother’s life, who, having been widowed in 1422, moved on with Owain Tudor, her servant and a Welsh commoner, which was frowned upon by the state. It’s a life that sounds like the plot of a terribly inaccurate historical drama, yet this is the circumstance of Jasper. It makes for an intriguing read; his early life is every part as interesting as his involvement in the wars. While his siblings history may be hard to come by, the book runs through every detail known of his immediate family. Later, Breverton talks of how Jasper was an integral part of the Wars of the Roses. He sustained a victory at Bosworth, where Richard III fell. Without Jasper, the Tudor family would have crumbled, and the epic dynasty that followed would have been thwarted.

At the time of its publication, Jasper Tudor: Dynasty Maker was the only book covering the earl. Since, it has spurred several other titles into publication, finally giving Jasper the recognition he seemingly deserves.

Overall, Breverton offers an intriguing outlook on an often ignored part of British history. For anyone interested in the Tudor time period, or indeed for those looking to find out more about the wars, this is a worthwhile read that will offer a unique point of view on one of the defining periods of British history.

THE COLLECTOR’S CABINET
An entertaining and accessible guide to the oft exclusive world of antiques
Author Marc Allum Publisher Icon Books Price £8.99 Released Out now

Follwing on from the success of his first book The Antiques Magpie: Antiques Roadshow regular Marc Allum has created a treasure trove of facts, fiction and anecdotes within the pages of The Collector’s Cabinet.

Aimed at enthusiasts and more seasoned collectors alike, even those with no experience in the world of antiques will find plenty to take away from this entertaining read. Be it a chuckle over an unfortunate mispronunciation at an auction, or shock at the amount people will pay for a faked mermaid mummy. Allum’s book acts as both an accessible source of information and an amusing account of his personal experiences. Sure, there are some parts that may be less appealing to the inexperienced reader - the guide to registration numbers being one of them - but it’s easy to skim over these should the need arise.

The book is split into short sections, allowing readers to dip in and out at their leisure and never tire of reading. Often only a page or two is dedicated to a topic, but rather than feeling inconclusive, it encourages the reader to go away and carry out their own further research. Lists, infographics, images and fact boxes also contribute to the readability of The Collector’s Cabinet, making it both a textual and visual delight.

Use of the first person in works of nonfiction can risk sounding lazy, but its use in The Collector’s Cabinet gives the book a conversational tone, and helps Allum’s passion and expertise to really shine through. His frequent warnings about the dangers of collecting, from buying and selling ivory to copyright laws, are not only helpful but also create the impression that he genuinely cares about his readers.

Overall, The Collector’s Cabinet is an exceptionally entertaining read, and one that should definitely have a place on the bookshelf of any keen antiquarian.
NORTH MEN: THE VIKING SAGA, 793-1241 AD
How the Vikings turned the Medieval world into their very own playground

Author John Haywood Publisher Head of Zeus Price £25 Released Out now

Like the fiery portents, lighting storms and dragons that heralded the Viking raids in England, John Haywood's North Men heralds the invasion of the Vikings into the Medieval world. Don't let the dates on the cover deceive you, though; this book doesn't just begin at Lindisfarne (although it is covered), it gives you a grounding in the evolution of civilisation in Scandinavia and a sprinkling of mythology thrown in for good measure. In terms of Viking activity, it aims to give the reader a full picture of the Viking Age. It isn't going to be a balanced view, however, as Haywood is quick to point out himself, so those looking for the Vikings trading prowess should look elsewhere. He's here to talk distance, charting all their exploits from England, France, the Balkans, Asia, the Mediterranean and beyond.

From all this moving around, Haywood does a fine job of charting the rise of the Vikings from the dispirit raiders of the 8th century to the rise of the Scandinavian kingdoms and their emergence into the European stage by the 13th century.

The Christianisation of these kingdoms was key and it seems assimilation of culture and religion was more effective than carrying a big stick ever was.

The narrative is straightforward and easy to follow - Haywood has made this period of history accessible to all. If you're looking for a detailed analysis of Viking activities in these locations, though, you will be left wanting, as while this book is a solid introduction to these freebooters, its layout does not give it the ability to delve into great detail on any one subject.

Also provided is a timeline for quick reference and a full list of the various dynastic lineages that were set up around Europe, making all those wonderful Vikings names easy to find.

WARS AND BATTLES OF THE ROMAN REPUBLIC
The key conflicts fought by the legion before republic became empire

Author Paul Chrystal Publisher Fonthill Media Price £18.99 Released Out now

Before the days of Pax Romana, the Roman Republic was in an almost constant state of warfare. As it expanded its territory, many a battle was fought on land and at sea against the likes of the Gauls, the Etruscans and the Carthaginians. Paul Chrystal's Wars And Battles Of The Roman Republic takes on the task of describing and explaining 100 key battles from the struggle to dominate Italy in 753 BCE to the days of Julius Caesar in 100 BCE.

Beginning with the Roman conquest of the Italian Peninsula, each battle is presented in immaculate detail while also being punchy in its delivery and not over-staying its welcome. A book that you can dip into or read cover to cover, it is presented chronologically and helps take the reader on a journey as the legion develops from a part-time army to a full-time war machine. It's refreshing that the battles are described on more than just face value with the effects of the conflicts assessed both economically and socially. As Chrystal says himself: "No war or battle was ever fought in isolation - there is always a casus belli."

The downside of Wars And Battles Of The Roman Republic is that all the battles during the days of empire are not included, but the big hitters from the republic era including the three Punic Wars, Gallic Wars and the Siege of Syracuse are all mentioned. The trawl through can become a little linear, so it's lucky that the chronology is broken up into sections. Each war is given a summary for context while the text is bowered by an introduction describing warfare prior to the Romans and an epilogue acting as a taster to Augustus's creation of the Roman Empire, leaving you wanting more.
ZEMKE’S WOLFPACK
56 reasons for the Luftwaffe to fear the RAF

Author Nigel Julian and Peter Randall Publisher Fighting High Publishing
Price £25 Released Out now

The United States put its latest, abortive test of the trillion-dollar F-35 stealth fighter through its paces in January 2015, which led to the test pilot penning a damning five-page brief of its capabilities. It seems that further development and improvement is required in the future of this bleeding edge aircraft, but at least they’re in good hands. The renowned 56th Fighter Wing that trains F-35 pilots has its origins in World War II, in the Royal Air Force, at a time when the United States had no real air force to speak of, just a group of flying enthusiasts and some ageing hardware. In 1943, the Royal Air Force was still the frontline weapon to be feared by the Luftwaffe, but by then the Americans and the P-47 Thunderbolt had entered service and the 56th, as a part of the RAF, were a fighter unit to be feared by the Germans. Led by Hubert Zemke, it played to the strengths of the large and heavily armed P-47s with three-wave tactics that divided and conquered the enemy in air-to-air combat, and chalked up hundreds of kills by the end of World War II.

With a foreword by the son of the eponymous colonel himself, Zemke’s Wolfpack charts the day-to-day of the 56th in more than 400 captioned photographs drawn from archives and rare personal collections. The photographs are as fascinating as the stories of the ground crew, trainers and pilots are unique.

BEAUTIFUL IDIOTS AND BRILLIANT LUNATICS
A SIDWAYS LOOK AT TWENTIETH-CENTURY LONDON

One city, one century - endless fun

Author Rob Baker Publisher Amberley Price £14.99 Released Out now

As we enter a new year, there’s always a period of reflection. It’s safe to say that in the mere 16 years of this century we’ve experienced an incredible amount of innovation and progress, especially in science and technology. However, it’s nothing compared to the rollercoaster ride that was the 20th century, one that saw two world wars, the women’s vote, the invention of the internet and – unfortunately – Vanilla Ice. In this book, Rob Baker explores its most poignant events, which demonstrated the century’s cultural shifts and progress in society. He does so through focusing on the cultural hub stood at the centre of the 20th-century revolution: London.

In the highlights taken from his blog ‘Another Nickel in the Machine’ used to summarise the 20th century, Baker doesn’t bother with the Battle of Britain or the Treaty of Versailles. Instead he explores the rich history of 20th-century London through an eclectic mix of sensation, scandal and high society. He favours characters over heroes, and provides a highly entertaining collection, from the Kray twins and their gangster paradise to the 1970 Miss World Competition and its feminist protesters. The book is most appealing through its diversity, as it covers everything from flappers and swing dancers, suffragettes and politicians to glam rockers and hippies.

The combination of Baker’s selection of events and his entertaining voice makes for a glamorous account of the 20th century that will capture the attention of those not accustomed to nonfiction, while providing enough context and background information to keep those with an academic interest in 20th-century history interested.
Which beach was this iconic picture taken on?

The D-Day landings took place on five beaches in Normandy, France, and the operation was the largest seaborne invasion in history.

Is it...

A. Omaha  B. Utah  C. Juno

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**Brief Bio**

Cixi
Nationality: Chinese
Born-died: 1835-1908

Believed to have been the most powerful woman in Chinese history, Cixi was the Empress Dowager and regent of Qing China. Ruling over a series of corrupt officials, Cixi pledged her support to the Boxers in the ultimately failed bid to rid China of European influences.

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**American soldiers storm the walls of Peking during the Siege of the International Legations**

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**Did the Aztecs have ambitions to move into what we now know as the USA?**

Jif Fairamb, Berwick upon Tweed

The Aztecs first came to the Americas when their descendants crossed the Bering Strait land bridge between Russia and Alaska. This migration occurred during Earth’s most recent major ice age, and to escape the cold, the Aztec people travelled further south to modern-day Mexico. From then on, they had no real reason to return north as the Valley of Mexico was an agriculturally rich area that could support a large population. Rather than venture further afield, the Aztecs found that they had to stay put and deal with neighbouring civilisations, who challenged their authority. Governance could not be achieved through direct conquest, and was instead achieved by exacting tribute. This system therefore made it harder to expand towards what is now the United States. There may have been sporadic Aztec correspondence with tribes to the north, but nothing long term. Perhaps if Cortes and his Spanish conquistadores hadn’t conquered Tenochtitlan we may have seen more contact.

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**What was the Boxer Rebellion?**

Tom Sherman, Yeovil

On the eve of the 20th century, China was ruled by the Qing Dynasty, but the influence of European powers ran deep through the nation. This infuriated many of the Chinese people, who were already angered by a humiliating defeat at the hands of Japan in the First Sino-Japanese War. A wave of Nationalism swept over China and culminated in what was known as the Boxer Rebellion. Beginning in 1899, the uprising started in Shantung Province as gangs took to the streets in protest. Known as the Yi Ho Tuan (Righteous Harmony Fists), the rebellion had spread to Peking by 1900 and targeted Europeans and Chinese Christians. Legions of support for the rebellion were found in the capital as well as the Europeans packed into the British Legation for safety. A 55-day siege between 400 European soldiers and the Boxers got under way, and became known as the Siege of the International Legations.

The power was initially with the Boxers, but the rebellion came to an end as a coalition of international powers including Britain, Germany, USA and Russia intervened. 19,000 soldiers were dispatched to Peking, and they successfully crushed the rebellion. Although they had been defeated, the Boxers had installed a sense of national pride throughout China.

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**This day in history 7 January**

**1558**

France takes back Calais
Calais is England’s last continental possession and a relic from the campaigns of the Hundred Years’ War. It is lost in January after a successful French siege during the Italian War of 1557-59.

**1593**

Galilean moons discovered
Italian astronomer Galileo Galilei makes his first observations of Ganymede, Callisto and Europa. They orbit Jupiter and become the first objects discovered by humans that revolve around another planet.

**1857**

First transatlantic telephone service
The first commercial radiotelephone service between Britain and the USA is set up. On just one circuit, an average of 2,000 calls were made a year, costing about £9 for a three-minute chat.

**1881**

First trans-Tasman flight
Australian aviator Guy Merino becomes the first person to fly solo and non-stop from Australia to New Zealand. He completes the feat in 11 hours and 45 minutes, crash landing but surviving to tell the tale.
What was the war of Jenkins' Ear?

Poppy Stevens, Altrincham

The war of Jenkins’ Ear was a conflict between Britain and Spain that escalated into a full European war. Tension was already growing between the two powers through frequent clashes of trading activity in the Caribbean. The result was the alleged sinking of British ships by Spanish privateers, and war was declared on 19 October 1739. The war itself was a series of raids on coastal defences in both the Caribbean and the Mediterranean with neither side ever gaining the upper hand. The Anglo-Spanish rivalry helped instigate the War of Austrian Succession as Britain supported Austria and Spain sided with France.

What happened to Jack Ruby?

James Whitlock, Chester

The infamous killer of Lee Harvey Oswald, Jack Ruby was arrested immediately after firing his .38 revolver into the abdomen of JFK’s assassin. He was sentenced to death after being convicted of murder. Ruby appealed the conviction, but died of a pulmonary embolism on 3 January 1967 while awaiting a retrial. Ruby was a Dallas nightclub owner and had supposed links with organised crime syndicates. The theory that he was part of a larger conspiracy continues to be disputed.

The shooting shocked the USA and was broadcast to millions on live TV.

Battle of Bataan begins

The battle is part of imperial Japan's successful invasion of the Philippines. The Japanese victory results in the taking of up to 80,000 Filipino and Americans as POWs and is followed by the Bataan Death March.

Mantell UFO incident

In pursuit of what he thinks is a UFO, National Guard pilot Captain Thomas F Mantell is killed after he crashes his F-81 fighter. It is believed that what he saw was a high altitude balloon.

Akihito sworn in as the emperor of Japan

After the death of his father Hirohito, Akihito becomes the 125th emperor of Japan. He is the only monarch in the world who holds the title of emperor and still rules the country to this day.

Leaning Tower closed

Pisa’s most famous building closes to the public for the first time in 800 years. The closure results in the introduction of new steel supports and the tower is not reopened until 2001.
‘Lucky Lucas’ - the Doodlebug destroyer

Nicola Lucas

A number of remarkable stories have come from my granddad’s service in the RAF during World War II. His name was Flight Officer Ronald George Lucas and he flew Hawker Tempests, Hurricanes, Mosquitos, Tiger Moths and Typhoons to name but a few.

Much of what I know has come from research and piecing memories together as, like a lot of people who fought in the wars, he didn’t talk about it much. When my dad and his siblings were children, he threw his service revolver into Poole Harbour to get rid of it forever.

At the start of the war when he was 16 or 17, he was with 151 Squadron. His job was to bomb and shoot German ammunition trains. The trains also contained civilians, women and children and, as his orders were to stop and disable the train, it was inevitable that they would be in the firing line. He never got over that. His navigator at this time was his good friend Ronnie Elvin, who died in 1944 aged 23. At the back of my granddad’s logbook is a page entitled ‘RIP’, on which there are 45 names.

One day Ronald walked into the mess and someone was playing a beautiful piece of music. Being a huge fan of music, he went to speak to the pianist. It was Richard Addkins and he was playing The Warsaw Concerto, the piece he had written for the film Dangerous Moonlight. Another time, Ronald crashed into the latrines and dutifully recorded it in his log book with the note ‘s**t all over the aerodrome’.

Send your memories to: allabouthistory@imagine-publishing.co.uk
All flight personnel in the squadron were given escape packs. Like all British men fighting overseas, if captured their duty was to escape and these packs also included false papers and identities. My granddad was no exception and was given the French identity of 'Édouard Monpere', which is something my dad finds particularly touching. During the war, granddad was known as 'Lucky Lucas', because, as the story goes, he kept coming back, although later exploits would suggest that this wasn’t down to luck at all but extreme skill.

In 1944, he joined 501 Squadron at Manston. This was amalgamated with the Fighter Interception Unit (FIU) the next day and they formed a small group of elite fighter pilots led by Squadron Leader Joe Berry. They were highly skilled and were required to track and shoot down V1 bombs at night and during bad weather. The unit began with 12 men but half were killed in the first week. Winston Churchill gave the order that they had to consider themselves expendable. Granddad didn’t have to continue flying as he had completed his rounds (two was the full service requirement). He had the opportunity to take leave, but along with a number of others, he continued fighting.

My granddad survived the war having shot down at least six V-1s. Eventually flying too many rounds in an unpressurised cockpit plus a habit of 60 cigarettes a day meant he was invalided out for the end of the war. His lungs collapsed and he lived the rest of his life with just one. He spent 19 months in hospital when my dad was a child with pleurisy and pneumonia. Later he returned to work as a draughtsman and technical drawer in engineering company Foster Wheeler, and in the 1970s he helped to invent Computer Aided Design (CAD). Ill health from his war escapades plagued him throughout his life and he died in 1998. As a family we are immensely proud of his achievements and modesty during this most terrible time.

Do you have any family stories to share?  

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ELEANOR OF AQUITAINE
CRUSADER QUEEN
Inside the turbulent reign of the Middle Ages’ most powerful woman

POMPEII: THE LAST HERO
The tragic tale of Pliny the Elder’s doomed rescue mission

VICTORIAN MEDICINE
From 30-second amputations to cocaine toothache cures

THE BRITISH HOME GUARD
The real Dad’s Army were armed, dangerous and ready to kill

PLUS: Real mad men of Madison Avenue, U-2 Incident, Battle of Verdun, Toilets through history, Francisco Franco, Day in the life of a bootlegger
HISTORY VS HOLLYWOOD
Fact versus fiction on the silver screen

PRIDE


Does this heartfelt comedy-drama get its facts straight?

WHAT THEY GOT WRONG...

01 The biggest gripe for many is the portrayal of the Lesbians Against Pit Closures (LAPC). While the members of Lesbians and Gays Support the Miners (LGSM) are the heroes, the LAPC are depicted more as a riotous group rather than the serious organisation they were.

02 When Mark Ashton and LGSM arrive in South Wales, they receive a hostile reception from the Dulais Valley locals. This reaction is exaggerated for dramatic effect - in reality the welcome was a lot warmer. Also, 27 LGSM members slept on Dai’s floor, not 12.

03 Pride does skip around some of the political issues. Ashton’s communist leanings are only briefly alluded to and The Sun isn’t named as the newspaper that releases the headline: ‘Perverts support the pits’. There is also criticism that there aren’t enough Welsh actors.

04 The film tells the story of the LGSM’s efforts to support the miners of South Wales. It’s under no obligation to include the other striking miners across Britain, but it would perhaps have been courteous to make a small mention to the other British pits.

WHAT THEY GOT RIGHT...

The film is a very good representation of events. In the Westminster Bridge scene, there are cameos appearances from the people the characters are based on and many of these were consulted during the writing of the film. The song played over the closing credits was written about Ashton.
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