HORRORS OF THE ASYLUM: Discover terrifying Victorian treatments.

WHO WAS MARY MAGDALENE?

ALL ABOUT HISTORY

DEATH OF THE REPUBLIC

JULIUS CAESAR: How Rome's infamous ruler seized power in the name of the people.

MARY BEARD SPEAKS

Building the Big Apple: The rise and rise of New York's skyline.

TAMERLANE'S REIGN OF TERROR: The sadistic sheep rustler who conquered Central Asia.

THE OTHER CHURCHILL'S FINEST HOUR: Why Winston idolised the 1st Duke of Marlborough.

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Welcome

If you visit the ruins of the Roman Forum today, it is easy to be overawed by the faded glory of the crumbling columns, weather-beaten basilicas and sprawl of former civic buildings. But if you look past the better-preserved relics in the main square, you may notice a mound tucked behind a low wall. You’ll know if you’ve found it because on any given day the secluded spot is piled high with bouquets of flowers, like a fresh grave.

In fact, the less scrupulous tour guides will tell you it’s Caesar’s grave but the Roman ruler was just cremated there and his ashes were buried in his family’s tomb. Rather than a grave, this mound is what’s left of the Temple of Caesar. This is where Romans would gather to worship their former leader as a god.

That a man who seized control for himself, ending democratically elected rule in favour of imperial power, can be so beloved that people still leave him offerings 2,000 years later might seem odd. However, as celebrity classicist Mary Beard — fresh from filming hit new BBC series Civilisations — explains in our in-depth feature, Caesar was a skilled politician who knew how to win over the people with slick sound bites and populist policies. Turn to page 32 to learn more!

Jack Parsons
Editor

Be part of history

Editor’s picks

Father of Europe
Explore how Charles the Great reshaped Medieval Europe and became the first Holy Roman emperor.

Horrors of the asylum
Why did mental health hospitals in the 19th century go from human zoos to the talking cures?

Scourge of God
Meet Timur the Lame, a sheep herder turned bloody butcher who inspired fear from Damascus to Delhi.

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DEATH OF THE REPUBLIC

JULIUS CAESAR

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CHARLEMAGNE

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Hacksaw Ridge takes a turn under the microscope
DARING TO DREAM

Martin Luther King Jr delivers a speech to a crowd of 7,000 in Berkeley, California. A staunch advocate of nonviolent protest against racial injustice, the Georgia-born civil rights leader led the Montgomery Bus Boycott in 1955 and the March on Washington in 1963, where he made his famous ‘I Have a Dream’ speech. In 1964 he won the Nobel Peace Prize. This month marks 50 years since King’s assassination by a sniper in Memphis on 4 April 1968.
SUMO SMACK DOWN

Japanese heavyweight wrestlers face off in a rare glimpse of the country just before its rapid industrialisation. The scene was captured by British-Italian Felice Beato, who was one of the world's first war photographers. He shot the Crimean War and rebellions of India and China before going to Japan. It was here that Beato also learnt to hand-colour his images by applying Japanese watercolour-painting and print-making techniques.
As part of Hitler’s ‘final solution,’ Polish Jews were confined to one walled-up district in Poland’s capital city to await transportation to death camps. However, from 19 April 1943, the Warsaw Ghetto chose to fight back. It was ultimately a one-sided battle, but rather than killing the 13,000 inhabitants in three days as planned, they held out for 28. The uprising also inspired similar rebellions in other ghettos and concentration camps.
DEATH OF FRANCO

A small boy waves the far-right Falangist flag at the funeral of Spanish dictator General Francisco Franco, who died on 20 November 1975. The authoritarian leader was buried at the Valley of the Fallen mausoleum — a colossal memorial built on the orders of the Generalissimo by political prisoners, many of whom died in the process. Franco ruled Spain for 36 years, coming to power after the Spanish Civil War. 1975
DAWN OF THE TANK AGE

Armoured tanks were first used during World War I. While these early models were extremely slow and prone to break down, their increased mobility eventually broke the stalemate of trench warfare. The first 'landships' were deployed by the British at the Somme in 1916, but 26-28 April marks the 100th anniversary of the first tank-on-tank battle when the British Mark IVs clashed with German A7Vs at the Second Battle of Villers-Bretonneux, pictured.
“Right action is better than knowledge; but in order to do what is right, we must know what is right.”

Charlemagne

This warrior chief united Medieval Europe and presided over a cultural revival, but slaughtered Saxons and imposed his will at sword-point.
Life and times of Charlemagne

From Frankish prince to Holy Roman Emperor, the so-called Father of Europe reshaped the continent.

BIRTH OF A KING
Charlemagne was the son of Frankish king Pepin the Short. The date of Pepin's marriage to Bertrada of Lion have been reported as 741 and 742, so there is a possibility that he was illegitimate.

RISE TO POWER
Charlemagne ascended the Frankish throne jointly alongside his brother, Carloman, after the death of their father. His first son, Pepin the Hunchback, was born the same year.

RECONQUERING AQUITAINE
By crushing the rebellion led by Hannold II, the son of the former duke of Aquitaine, Charlemagne kept control of the duchy. Carloman refused to participate, leading to mounting hostilities between the two rulers.

RULING ALONE
After Carloman's sudden death, Charlemagne became the sole king of the Franks. His coronation as emperor was acknowledged in the East, Michael I, as his co-emperor in the West.

EXPANDING THE EMPIRE
Charlemagne began his campaign against the Saxons, conquering the region of England first. His attention was soon diverted two years later with the invasion of Lombardy in northern Italy.

FURTHER CONQUEST
Growing concerned that he needed to secure the eastern border of his empire, Charlemagne successfully battled the Avars and conquered their land along the Danube river.

MONEY MATHS
From Frankish 12 DENARII to 20 SOUS makes up one pound of silver. Therefore 240 DENARII was equal to one pound.

THE CAROLINGIAN RENAISSANCE
Charlemagne launched series of educational reforms across his expanding empire. He hired bishops to open schools at cathedrals, while he built a palace school at Aachen for his family.

DIVIDING POWER
The king decided to promote his sons to positions of authority. Charlemagne named his two youngest sons, Carloman and Louis, as the kings of Italy and Aquitaine respectively.

A RARE DEFEAT
Charlemagne invaded Northern Spain but failed to beat the armies of the Muslim rulers. Eventually forced to leave, the kings' forces were eventually ambushed at the Battle of Roncesvaux Pass.

LENGTH OF CONQUESTS
1 YEAR EACH
5 YEARS
30 YEARS

SAVING THE DAY
When king Desiderius of the Lombards invaded the papal cities of Pope Adrian I, Charlemagne not only stopped him, but successfully conquered Lombardy as well.

CROWNING GLORY
Pope Leo III crowned Charlemagne the first Holy Roman emperor in Rome. The pontiff hoped to restore the Western Roman Empire, while the coronation supported Charlemagne's own imperial ambitions.

CHARLEMAGNE'S FAMILY
AT LEAST 4 legitimate wives during his lifetime
18 CHILDREN
he supposedly fathered, three illegitimate sons survived his adulthood only one remained alive by 802, three years before Charlemagne's death

BYZANTINE BREAKTHROUGH
The emperor in the East, Michael I, finally acknowledged Charlemagne as an emperor 12 years after his coronation. However, Michael refused to recognise him as a Roman emperor.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE
Charlemagne crowned his only remaining legitimate son, Louis the Pious, as his co-emperor and king of the Franks. Louis had been the king of Aquitaine since the age of three.

DEATH OF AN EMPEROR
After suffering from pleurisy, Charlemagne passed away at Aachen. He died just over 45 years after his coronation.

IMPERIAL STATS
Doubled to 20 million
30 YEARS
The empire remained united for almost 30 years after Charlemagne's death before it was divided among his grandsons.

After suffering from pleurisy, Charlemagne passed away at Aachen. He died just over 45 years after his coronation.
How to CONQUER THE SAXONS
USE CHARLEMAGNE’S TACTICS TO CRUSH YOUR HEATHEN ENEMIES
AND BUILD YOUR MAGNIFICENT EMPIRE SAXONY, 772-804

Charlemagne expanded his empire through a series of successful military campaigns, with his conquest of Saxony one of the most crucial. The ruler believed it was his duty to spread Christianity across Europe and the Saxons continued to cross his borders to conduct raids on his lands, provoking his anger.

Charlemagne defeated a number of rebellions from those who resisted the conquest, led by the defiant Saxons rebel leader Widukind. At the same time, he issued administrative reforms to bring the Saxons into the Frankish Empire. It took him over 30 years to fully consolidate his control over the region.

**Frankish cavalry**

Fast, highly skilled and armed with throwing spears, Charlemagne’s cavalry troops quickly overpowered Saxons on the battlefield.

**Rebel warriors**

While the invading force was superior to a pitched battle, the Saxons employed insurgency tactics to resist Frankish occupation for years.

**Matching arsenal**

Though Charlemagne’s troops were better equipped, both sides carried similar weapons: long swords, round shields and spears.

**Continental conflict**

Not to be confused with the Anglo-Saxons of England, Charlemagne invaded continental Saxony into the Frankish Empire. In total, it took him over 30 years to fully consolidate his control over the region.

**How not to... make the Saxon Wars drag out**

Charlemagne was 24 when he first attacked the Saxons but he was distracted by other conflicts, such as fighting the Muslims in Spain in 777 but he frequented became distracted by other conflicts, such as with Lombardy.

He left Saxony to other generals to take care of but he frequently became distracted by other conflicts, such as with Lombardy.

**How to... make the Saxon Wars drag out**

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**CONVERT TO CHRISTIANITY**

Charlemagne found he had to grow ever more ruthless to suppress the rebels, shifting from taking a few aristocratic hostages in 772 to slaughtering 4,500 rebel prisoners of war in 785. Considering being merciless from the beginning to prove you mean business.

**MASSACRE THE REBELS**

Every time you think you’ve successfully conquered the Saxons, they will rise up again. Charlemagne had to go to ever greater extremes to suppress the rebels, shifting from taking a few aristocratic hostages in 772 to slaughtering 4,500 rebel prisoners of war in 785. Considering being merciless from the beginning to prove you mean business.

**BUY A CHIEFTAIN’S ALLEGIANCE**

When a Saxon leader agrees to be baptised, grant them land and a title. This will wed them to you financially, as well as make your way through the territory as well as build your own fortresses, just as Charlemagne captured Eingenburg, the Saxons’ largest refuge castle, in 772 and later established Kaiserslautern.

**PAX CAROLINGIA**

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**INVADE SAXON TERRITORY**

In retaliation for a raiding party crossing your border to sack and burn a church in Deventer, march on Saxony in January 772. Bring as large an army as you can muster, so that you can quickly capture and subjugate the region of Engria. Once this is secured, use this as a base of operations while you can finally breathe a sigh of relief.

**PREPARE FOR THE LONG HAUL**

With the rebellion now in full swing, the Saxons won’t accept defeat easily – this campaign will take years to win. Take Saxony strongly as you make your way through the territory as well as build your own fortresses, just as Charlemagne captured Eingenburg, the Saxons’ largest refuge castle, in 772 and later established Kaiserslautern.

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Cavalrymen wore iron helmets with a wide rim and sometimes a neck guard for extra protection. There are some suggestions that they may also have worn a conical helmet like a Spangenhelm.

CHAIN MAIL SHIRT

MAILHAUBERKS were the most common form of body armour. Initially, between stages of the fall of Rome and the emergence of the Middle Ages, contemporary visual sources, such as the Stuttgart Psalter, also suggest that cavalrymen wore scale armour or even a centurion-style cuirass.

EXPENSIVE SWORD

A CUT ABOVE

While infantry cavalrymen would use a lance when charging, many Carolingian literary sources made a, ahem, point of mentioning their swords. Cavalrymen wore the only ones rich enough to afford them. The longsword, which was double-edged and tapered, was popular during Charlemagne’s reign before the sax, a single-edged iron sword, became de rigueur in later years.

FIGHTING FORCE

HIGHLY MOBILE

The cavalry only made up about 10 to 20 per cent of Charlemagne’s army, but they were his dominant fighting force. Their primary use in battle was to charge through gaps in the enemy line—a tactic that frequently secured victory. However, the highly mobile horseman could also be used for search-and-destroy missions or to scout ahead.

ADDITIONAL WEAPONS

FIGHT OR FLIGHT

Charlemagne issued edicts saying that as well as a sword and spear, the proto-knights should carry a dagger and bow with a minimum of 12 arrows into battle. This meant the cavalry could fight close up as well as rain down punishment from a distance.

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While Charlemagne ruled from a number of cities and palaces, he spent a significant amount of time in Aachen, a city in western Germany. From the 790s onwards, he set about making it his imperial capital city. Aachen was ideally suited because it was at the heart of his mighty kingdom with important roads connecting it to the Rhineland and northern Gaul. The city was also a former Roman settlement with its own traditional baths, symbolically conflating Charlemagne’s rule with that of the ancient emperors.

To establish his seat of power, Charlemagne built a royal complex covering 50 acres that included a palace, a law court and the Palatine Chapel — the latter of which was designed by Frankish architect Odo of Metz. The king’s own palace was the portico, a type of porch. Inside it, Charlemagne exhibited all the treasures he collected from the provinces he conquered during his rule. Many of these can be still seen on display today thanks to the Aachen Cathedral Treasury.

**Art on display**
Connecting the Palatine Chapel to the imperial palace was the portico, a type of porch. Inside it, Charlemagne exhibited all the treasures he collected from the provinces he conquered during his rule. Many of these can be still seen on display today thanks to the Aachen Cathedral Treasury.

**Fit for a king**
The Throne of Charlemagne is located inside the chapel on the upper level and is made from marble from the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. Mounted on four pillars, the throne has a gap that allowed for pilgrims to pass through underneath as a sign of humility. Although it wasn’t used for Charlemagne’s coronation, it was used for 31 other kings of Germany until the mid-16th century.

**The Wolf’s Door**
The main entrance, known as the Wolf’s Door, is made from bronze and adorned with two lion heads. Legend has it that in exchange for the first soul to enter, the devil agreed to help build the cathedral. He expected the soul of a bishop but the cunning locals tricked him by chasing a wolf into the cathedral. Angered, the devil slammed the bronze doors shut and ripped his finger off in the process.

**Twin towers**
The monumental western façade of the chapel is known as a westwork, an architectural innovation associated with Carolingian churches. It is two storeys high and comprises two towers on either side, as well as inner rooms and the main entrance to the chapel. Inside the two towers are spiral staircases that provide access to the upper rooms.

**Symbolic meaning**
From its throne, Charlemagne was able to look down onto the altar of the chapel while hidden from the view of those below. While he could look up at the mosaic of Christ on the chapel’s dome, the congregation was below the emperor on the ground. It was heavily symbolic; as Charlemagne was seen to be halfway between God and the people.

**Religious decoration**
The chapel’s original cupola mosaic was supposedly a depiction of Christ enthroned, in purple robes and surrounded by the 24 elders from the Book of Revelation. Foreign artists, brought to Aachen by Charlemagne, most likely made this mosaic, although it doesn’t survive today. Instead, the mosaic that now decorates the chapel is a 9th-century recreation by Antonio Solari, following the designs of Belgian architect Jean-Baptiste de Bethune.

**Under fire**
When it was built, the chapel’s dome was the largest north of the Alps. In 1666, a fire destroyed the entire roof and when the dome had to be completely rebuilt, it was made taller than before. Just under three centuries later, the cathedral was heavily damaged as a result of artillery fire by Allied forces during World War II. Thankfully the main structure survived and many of the treasured objects had already been moved for protection — however, it took over 30 years to restore the building completely.

**Imperial inspiration**
There are eight supporting pillars within the chapel, made from porphyry marble. Charlemagne imported the expensive material from Tavenna, Italy, emphasising the influence of the city’s Basilica of San Vitale and the design of the Palatine Chapel, as well as from Rome. Porphyry marble was purple, the expensive colour of royalty, adding further symbolism to its use in the construction of the chapel.

**Byzantine influence**
The octagonal shape of the chapel was influenced by the Byzantine style found at the Basilica of San Vitale and remains at the centre of the cathedral. Although many of the additions to the chapel are from a later date, the octagon is the original structure from the time of Charlemagne.

**Charlemagne’s bones**
The Proserpina sarcophagus, which is currently displayed at the Aachen Cathedral Treasury, did not originate during Charlemagne’s lifetime. Made from marble, it was created during the early 3rd century CE in Rome, around 500 years before the birth of Charlemagne. However, it has been argued that he was possibly interred in the sarcophagus after his death in 814.
CHARLEMAGNE

Day in the life

ROLAND’S REAR GUARD

Disaster awaited Charlemagne’s most famous general as he returned home
Roncevaux Pass, Pyrenees, 15 August 778

The Battle of Roncevaux Pass has gone down in history as one of the few defeats of Charlemagne’s reign. Returning from the failed invasion of Spain, the Carolingian army was retreating through the Pyrenees when they suffered a surprise attack by the Basques. It was a disaster for the king, as his rearguard was cut off from the rest of the army and slaughter as they fought back. The battle has gone down in Medieval legend thanks to the epic poem The Song of Roland, which romantically recalls the tale of the military commander, Roland, and his heroic last stand.

The army stopped for a break after several hours of continuous marching, exhausted from the initial invasion and the journey home. As they made their way, Charlemagne ordered his troops to destroy the defensive walls at Pamplona to prevent the Basques from using them in a retaliation attack.

The army continued through the mountainous landscape, and reports that the Saxons were revolting against Frankish rule in Saxony and the invasion of Spain were achieving little, the Carolingian army marched towards the Roncevaux Pass to return home. As they made their way, Charlemagne ordered his troops to destroy the defensive walls at Pamplona to prevent the Basques from using them in a retaliation attack.

Long road ahead

With reports that the Saxons were revolting against Frankish rule in Saxony and the invasion of Spain achieving little, the Carolingian army marched towards the Roncevaux Pass to return home. As they made their way, Charlemagne ordered his troops to destroy the defensive walls at Pamplona to prevent the Basques from using them in a retaliation attack.

Take a break

The army stopped for a break after several hours of continuous marching, exhausted from the initial invasion and the journey home. Charlemagne was tactful with his campaigns and generally had around six months’ worth of supplies gathered to support his troops — normally used to fuel the victories, not to aid a retreat.

Long stretch

Charlemagne and his men reached the Roncevaux Pass and began to make the long, arduous walk across into France. The rearguard had been placed at the back to protect the rest of the troops and supplies. The pass was narrow and heavily wooded, so the journey was likely uncomfortable for the soldiers as they made their way through the cramped conditions.

Under attack!

As the army continued through the mountain pass, they were ambushed by Basque tribes. The Basques had been left infuriated after Charlemagne had damaged Pamplona and a number of other cities belonging to them and had followed the Carolingians to seek revenge. The king and his troops had not anticipated such a bold attack and were consequently unprepared.

Deadly chaos

Having gathered in the dense woods of the mountains, the Basques quite literally had the upper hand. Trapped in the confined pass, the Carolingians scrambled to escape the enemy and save themselves from the ambush. Charlemagne attempted to organise his army in order to get them out as quickly as possible, aware that they were at a great disadvantage.

Lone wolves

In the midst of the chaos, the Basques had managed to completely isolate the rearguard from the rest of the army. To give the king and the rest of the men time to escape, the rearguard, led by noble military commanders including Roland, held the Basques off for as long as possible — not an easy feat in the evening’s darkness.

A heroic sacrifice

Charlemagne and his troops just about managed to get out of harm’s way but at a great cost. Every single member of the Carolingian rearguard was brutally massacred and the Basques looted supplies before escaping under the cover of night. It was a humiliating defeat for the king, who consequently did not attempt another Spanish invasion for several years.

HOME IS IN SIGHT

Following even more hours of marching the army could see the mountains of the Pyrenees. It signalled not only the border between Spain and France, but that home was getting even closer for the tired soldiers. Charlemagne had ordered for some garrisons to be left behind to secure the territory so that the soldiers could cross through to France safely.

A饥饿的牺牲！

查理曼和他的军队刚好设法逃出了法军的追击，但价格非常昂贵。每一个单独的卡尔文尼安部队都英勇地在战斗中牺牲，法军抢劫了所有物资后在夜幕的掩护下逃走了。这是查理曼国王非常可惜的战败，因此之后他不可能再进行另外的西班牙入侵了。
PAULINUS II OF AQUILEIA
ITALIAN C.765 - C.832
Paulinus joined Charlemagne's court around 786, after the king defeated an uprising in Fruili, Lombardy. Despite the king's conquering of his native home, Paulinus proved to be a loyal and trusted follower of Charlemagne. In 787 he was appointed as the archbishop of Aquileia, a role he remained in until his death around 15 years later. As archbishop, he promoted the spread of Christianity around the empire as one of the fundamental aspects of the Carolingian Renaissance.

ALCUIN OF YORK
Alcuin was a scholar and leading figure of the Carolingian Renaissance during Charlemagne's reign. He was originally a deacon at York Cathedral before accepting an invitation from the king to join his royal court, after the pair met in Italy. Alcuin became the master of the palace school of Aachen and helped set up the library. He was personally responsible for producing a number of written works that still exist today. He was recruited for Charlemagne's court around 784, at a time when the king was seeking capable scholars for his education reforms. Alcuin became involved in architectural projects, such as the construction of the Palace of Aachen, as well becoming a notable poet. However, his best remembered for creating the Vitae Caroli Majoris, also known as the Life of Charlemagne. It is a largely accurate biography of the king and emperor, with an invaluable insight into life at the Carolingian court.

SAINT ANGILBERT
FRANKISH C.705 - 754
Born into a noble family, Angilbert was educated at the Lombard court during the reign of King Desiderius. After his arrival, Peter had the distinction of becoming Charlemagne's personal grammar and Latin teacher during his time at the Carolingian court. As a tutor, Peter helped to develop the use of grammar that later became standardized with the creation of Carolingian minuscule. Peter returned to Pisa in 796, where he spent the last three years of his life.

EBBO
GERMAN C.775 - 851
From his humble beginnings as a serf, Ebbo was a member of the Palace school at Aachen to return for his brother Ailric's freedom in 782. Ebbo had been taken prisoner after leading a revolt against the king in 775. Like his contemporaries Alcuin and Einhard, Paul wrote a number of influential works, most notably his History of Lombardy.

PAUL THE DEACON
ITALIAN C.735 - 804
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Peter was one of the first foreign scholars to join Charlemagne's court, arriving after the king's conquest of Lombardy.

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SAINT ANGILBERT
FRANKISH C.705 - 754
Born into a noble family, Angilbert was educated at the Lombard court during the reign of King Desiderius. After his arrival, Peter had the distinction of becoming Charlemagne's personal grammar and Latin teacher during his time at the Carolingian court. As a tutor, Peter helped to develop the use of grammar that later became standardized with the creation of Carolingian minuscule. Peter returned to Pisa in 796, where he spent the last three years of his life.

EBBO
GERMAN C.775 - 851
From his humble beginnings as a serf, Ebbo was a member of the Palace school at Aachen to return for his brother Ailric's freedom in 782. Ebbo had been taken prisoner after leading a revolt against the king in 775. Like his contemporaries Alcuin and Einhard, Paul wrote a number of influential works, most notably his History of Lombardy.

PAUL THE DEACON
ITALIAN C.735 - 804
Paul was originally a member of intellectual circle at the Lombard court during the reign of King Desiderius. After his arrival, Peter had the distinction of becoming Charlemagne's personal grammar and Latin teacher during his time at the Carolingian court. As a tutor, Peter helped to develop the use of grammar that later became standardized with the creation of Carolingian minuscule. Peter returned to Pisa in 796, where he spent the last three years of his life.

Peter was one of the first foreign scholars to join Charlemagne's court, arriving after the king's conquest of Lombardy.

EINHARD
FRANKISH C.770 - 840
Ebbo was a Carolingian scholar and historian who produced a number of written works that still exist today. He was recruited for Charlemagne's court around 791, at a time when the king was seeking capable scholars for his education reforms. Ebbo became involved in architectural projects, such as the construction of the Palace of Aachen, as well becoming a notable poet. However, his best remembered for creating the Vitae Caroli Majoris, also known as the Life of Charlemagne. It is a largely accurate biography of the king and emperor, with an invaluable insight into life at the Carolingian court.

THEODULE OF ORLEANS
FRANKISH C.750 - 826
Educated as a boy at the monastery of Fulda, Theodule was sent to Charlemagne's court before moving to Tours, where he studied under Alcuin of York. He then returned to Fulda, becoming the abbot there, and instigated a renovation of the monastery. Thanks to Rabanus' support, the monastic school and library flourished, establishing Fulda as a major centre for learning in the Carolingian Empire. Theodule is considered to be one of the most, if not the most, prolific writers from the Carolingian Renaissance - he produced a number of different works, including poems, letters, treatises, scriptural commentaries and penitentials.
CHARLEMAGNE

HISTORY ANSWERS

Did Charlemagne speak French?
Matthias Brown

Though he was a Frankish king, Charlemagne likely spoke Old High German, a language that gave way to the modern Teutonic tongue. Apart from his native language, the Holy Roman emperor also spoke Latin, which was the official language of the Church and government. It's claimed Charlemagne understood a bit of Greek, though to what extent is uncertain. He was unable to write it and his ability to read it has also been questioned.

What is Carolingian minuscule?
Harry Tobin

Carolingian minuscule was developed in the late 8th century under the patronage of Charlemagne and was named in his honour. It was clear, uniform and easy to read. Carolingian minuscule became an instrumental part of Charlemagne's educational reforms. By the early 9th century, it had evolved across Europe, remaining popular until the 12th century. Not only did Carolingian minuscule mark the beginning of lowercase letters and separation between words, but it also revived the use of the neglected element of punctuation — and formed the basis for writing systems today.

Who was Pepin the Hunchback?
Olliv Scott

Pepin was Charlemagne's eldest son and he developed a notable curvature of the spine after birth, earning him his unfortunate sobriquet. In 792, Pepin plotted to overthrow his father with a group of disgruntled nobles but the coup was discovered before it could be put into action. While many of his fellow conspirators were blinded or killed for their crime, Charlemagne commuted Pepin's sentence. Instead, the prince was banished to a monastery for the rest of his days.

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When Sulla returned victorious from Pontus, the civil war had grown in size and brutality. He retook the city of Rome in 82 BCE, posting the proscriptions in the Forum — death lists that allowed anyone to kill those named on them. If they brought the victim's severed head to the authorities, they could claim a share of the deceased's confiscated property.

A teenage Caesar was married to Cornelia, the daughter of Cinna, one of Sulla's main opponents, and he was condemned to death when he refused to divorce her. For months he lived as a hunted fugitive, until family connections (and the simple fact that he was too young and obscure to be worth killing) gained him the pardon he had long been hoping for.

Like the United Kingdom today, the Roman Republic had no formal constitution and relied instead on a mix of law, tradition and habit to keep the wheels of public life turning. Caesar once cynically said that the "Republic is nothing", yet tradition guided most of his actions, and the principle that no one individual or group should ever possess permanent, supreme power was fundamental. The senior executive officers of the state were the two consuls, who were appointed. They led the state without a colleague for up to six months.

Gracchus had been brutally beaten to death along with many of his supporters. Nero was to follow. When Caesar was 12 years old, a disgruntled general by the name of Sulla turned his anger on Rome and seized control of the city, killing his opponents and anyone who dared to stand in his way. Sulla then departed to fight a war against Mithridates, a king of Pontus (now northern Turkey). Barely a year later, Rome found itself being stormed by another army, this time led by enemies who had escaped, regrouped and returned to wreak bloody vengeance.

Caesar’s name is the origin of the titles ‘tsar’ and ‘kaiser’ and 28 other imperial titles worldwide.
Julius Caesar

Sulla revived the title as a legal veil for power seized by military force. He carried out a series of reforms, intended to restore long-term stability by confirming the old traditions of public life and reducing the prestige and influence of the Senate. Having done his best to make the machinery of the state function again and packed the Senate with his supporters, Sulla resigned his powers and retired to private life. Caesar mocked him as a "political illiterate" for doing so.

While Sulla returned to a life of peace, Rome had no such luck. Some of the dictator's reforms were overturned within a decade and no one could eradicate the memory of civil war — of severed heads stuck on spikes on the Speakers' Platform in the Forum and corpses floating down the Tiber. Caesar and his contemporaries had seen all of these things, and there was no reason to believe they could not happen again.

Less than a year after Sulla had retired, one of the consuls staged an unapproved coup and was executed. Men like Caesar, Cicero, and Pompey the Great knew that public life might turn violent at any moment and that their lives could easily revert to force. So, Caesar did not overthrow a healthy and stable Republic but one that was struggling to cope with the pressures of holding together an expanding empire.

With the benefit of hindsight, people claimed that Sulla and others may have preserved Caesar's dictatorship, but there is no evidence that he had any wider ambition than to restore, just like any other aristocrat. There were no political parties in Rome as we would understand them today — office could not be shared by multiple people. Candidates rarely vied any policies and instead boasted of their personal ability and achievements.

Voters tended to go with the established "brand name" of a small number of aristocratic families, who supplied the majority of Rome's consuls. The logic was that a man whose father, uncle, or brother had served gave them the chance to put plenty of people in their debt for past favours, which could be called in at any time. Although not as pronounced, the draw of names like Kennedy — and now potentially Clinton — in American politics is an echo of this.

"NO ONE COULD ERADICATE THE MEMORY OF CIVIL WAR — OF SEVERED HEADS STUCK ON SPIKES"

Caesar's Path to the Top

Assuming absolute power over Rome involves a rigid career plan.

- **Quaestor (63 BCE)**
  - Caesar was elected quaestor for the first time, beginning his climb up the Roman power structure.
  - The position was similar to that of a magistrate, combined with an accountant as he oversaw the finances of the region and conducted investigations where necessary. This role may have inspired his vision of a more modernizing empire and his innovations to its infrastructure.

- **Prefect (62 BCE)**
  - In 62 BCE, Caesar was elected praetor without a public triumph for the first time, indicating a move towards more central authority.
  - The praetor position combined the duties of an exile and a senator, and Caesar's experience in military emergencies and his legal reputation elevated him at this stage of his career.

- **Proconsul (49 BCE)**
  - The proconsul position was combined with the duties of a senator and praetor, allowing Caesar to give public speeches and appoint magistrates, while others had difficulty in the absence of the Senate.
  - In his proconsulship, Caesar visited Gaul and conducted a census, expanding his influence across Western Europe.

- **Dictator for Life (44 BCE)**
  - Caesar was declared dictator perpetuo, or dictator for life, in 44 BCE, giving him absolute power over Rome.
  - Caesar was assassinated on a bridge outside the theatre by a group of senators and others who opposed his policies.

Death of the Republic

Caesar was murdered on the ides of March, 44 BCE, the last day of the month. The assassination of Caesar was a major event in Roman history, leading to the end of the Roman Republic and the beginning of the Roman Empire.

- **Octavian (43 BCE)**
  - The future Emperor Augustus emerged from the assassination with a claim to Caesar's political legacy.

- **Divus Julius (14 CE)**
  - After his death, Caesar was deified and declared a god, the first man to be considered divine in Rome.

The death of Julius Caesar marked the end of the Roman Republic and the beginning of the Empire, with a new era of political stability and cultural achievement.
Julius Caesar

MARY BEARD ON CAESAR

which military campaign do you think was Caesar’s most important?

Without a doubt, that has to be the conquest of Gaul —

So, what did he overpower the other two first?

The simple way of explaining that is class conflict.

Why was Caesar so beloved by the people but hated by

other politicians?

The principle of preventing anyone from gaining

political service as a chance to financially squeeze

other senators, which naturally made

him many enemies.

At 30, a man was able to seek

public office and it was a mark of

prestige, which Caesar then used to

promote his political career.

In many ways, Caesar did this, partly because he

promised them he would.

Although his family claimed an ancient lineage,

including descent from the goddess Venus, it

had been centuries since they had been at the

forefront of Roman politics. Caesar was forced

to make a name for himself, because few voters

would automatically choose a candidate with such

an unfamiliar name.

There was a real sense in which the empire was a cash cow.

So, how did he overpower the other two first?

First, he managed his armies.

It is hard to say how much Caesar actually influenced its history from language to

systems of communication ever since.

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There was a real sense in which the empire was a cash cow.
Julius Caesar

BEWARE THE IDES OF MARCH

The final nail in the coffin for the Republic was Caesar's assassination by plotting senators, many of them some of his oldest friends.

Marcus Junius Brutus 85-43 BCE
Alarmed by Caesar's growing power after being appointed dictator, Brutus was persuaded to join the conspirators. Upon realising that Brutus was one of the attackers, Caesar is said to have covered his face to preserve his dignity.

Gaius Cassius Longinus 85-43 BCE
Said to be jealous of the favour Caesar showed to Brutus, Cassius is thought to have been the mastermind behind the assassination plot. When the time came, Cassius grabbed his fellow conspirators and stabbed Caesar in the chest.

Doctimus Brutus 85-43 BCE
A distant cousin of Julius Caesar, Brutus was a general and politician whose job on the final day was to convince a sick Caesar to attend the Senate. He ensured Caesar would show up even if it was just to postpone the meeting.

Servilius Casca 84-42 BCE
Casca joined the conspirators alongside his brother, Gaius, who was a close friend of Caesar's. In fact, it was Casca who struck the first blow during the assassination, stabbing Caesar from behind his chair while he was distracted.

Gaius Trebonius 92-43 BCE
Once a trusted associate of Caesar, Gaius Trebonius intercepted Mark Antony outside the senate building, as he raced to warn Caesar of the plot, and enraged. He allowed the attackers to finish the job.

Tillius Cimber 85-42 BCE
Upon his arrival at the senate, Cimber was presented with a petition by Brutus to pardon his exiled brother. As the other senators gathered, Cimber grabbed Caesar's clothing to distract him.

When it happened
In 44 BCE, Caesar planned a major expedition against Parthia to avenge Crassus and would be away for several years. Three days before he was due to leave, the assassins struck. It was 15 March - or the Ides, one of the three named days in each Roman month.

During his murder, Caesar was stabbed 23 times. However, only the second stab wound is thought to have proved fatal.

Death of the Republic

Caesar was killed at a meeting of the Senate. The Senate House had been burned down in political rioting eight years earlier and Caesar's grand replacement was not yet finished. Purely by chance, the Senate convened in one of the temples attached to Pompey's theatre.
Julius Caesar

The established families wanted to make sure that there were enough opportunities available for them and their cronies, and presented a mere few men being granted major commands, even if this was the best way to deal with a problem. Inertia took hold at the heart of the state and meant that most senators felt it was better to let a problem endure than have one of their rivals gain the credit for solving it. Unemployment among citizens stood at a staggering level, leaving hundreds of thousands dependent on the grain distributed in Rome. Backed up by influence, money and supporters, Caesar forced through a bill redistributing huge swathes of publicly owned land as farms to war veterans during his consulship. Opposition was bitter, but it was less about the principle and more about the fear that this would make Caesar too popular with the people. Having secured what his allies wanted, Caesar gained an extraordinary provincial command position, which was eventually extended to ten years. This they could end Caesar’s illustrious career.

It was here that he carefully demonstrated that great many leading senators were willing to run everything he did was the risk of another costly civil war simply to cut Caesar down to size. However, Caesar was equally willing to change the world into chaos just to preserve his status and glory. Upon surveying dead senators after the Battle of Pharsalus in 48 BCE, he had to say was, “They wanted this.” Caesar had the better army and was still at the peak of his military performance; so he triumphed in this new civil war. Rome had a dictator once again, but Caesar surprised everyone by his “censers” opening opponents who surrendered, notably Brutus and Cassius, both of whom even received honours and office from his new regime. Although much of his time was spent on campaigns and in the famous affair with Cleopatra, his visits to Rome saw intensive bursts of wide-ranging reform, making the state begin to function once again. Most of these reforms were sensible, although in many cases there was not enough time for them to start to work. This was secara a brutal tyranny but for too many senators it was simply not how the state should work. One man, however capable and well-intentioned, should never hold so much power and receive honours on a scale dwarfing those of anyone else.

Friends and Foes

In politics, not everyone tends to get along. As you would expect, the First Triumvirate had its supporters and its enemies. Firm on their side, though, was Cicero, a politician and orator who was strongly opposed to the optimates in the Senate. In fact, he was so unhappy with the triumvirate that he appealed to Pompey and Caesar to help him return to Rome in 57 BCE after his exile. It's even thought that it was he who asked to join the triumvirate at the very beginning. He refused but that didn’t stop him from lending his legal services. His friend Lucius Lucullus also ran for the consulship with Caesar in 60 BCE and financed both of them, even though he was ultimately unsuccessful. But the trio perhaps had more enemies than friends. Bibulus, Caesar’s co-conspirator, was part of the optimates faction, the conservatives who were eager to block the radical reforms of the populares. Another of their rivals was Catilina the Younger, who later attacked the triumvirate for their extended governorships. But there was one man whose opposition to the three men led to the triumvirate’s birth in the first place.

Julius Caesar

The following pages contain the data, which was previously extracted from an image. The text is presented in a natural format, adhering to the guidelines.
When Julius Caesar landed on Britain's shores in 55 BCE, he took one look at the crazy-eyed Celts and turned around and went home. At least that's what the new series Britannia would have you believe. Set 90 years after Caesar, the show follows another invasion of Blighty, led by Aulus Plautius (David Morrissey), a rock-star Roman general who acts like he owns the place.

However, the epic drama also follows chariot-riding warrior queen Antedia (Zoë Wanamaker), who's caught up in tribal conflict. On the periphery, Mackenzie Crook stars as a cadaverous Druid shaman channeling the mysterious forces of the Underworld. Can the Celts unite to resist the might of the Roman army once more?

TERMS AND CONDITIONS The closing date for entries is 26 April 2018. Please be aware that answers must be submitted to the email address below. The competition is open to residents of the United Kingdom and Ireland only. Future Publishing has the right to substitute the prize for a similar iter of equal or higher value. Employees of Future Publishing (including freelancers), their families and their households are not eligible to enter. The editor's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. Prizes cannot be exchanged for cash.

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In what year did Caesar invade Britain?
A. 5 BCE
B. 55 BCE
C. 505 BCE

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While the story bears as much resemblance to the actual Roman invasion of Britain as Game of Thrones does to the War of the Roses, the first series is a thrilling romp nonetheless. Creator Jez Butterworth throws in psychedelic drugs, mysticism, folk horror (the Romans were the first to claim the Brits built ‘wicker men’, after all) and a surprising amount of humour to produce a strange brew that’s like nothing else.

Thanks to Sony Pictures Home Entertainment, we have five boxsets of Britannia series one on Blu-ray to give away. One lucky overall winner will win a boxset and one year's family membership to English Heritage, which will give you access to over 400 historic monuments across ancient Albion.

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From chaining patients to walls to dunking them in cold water, the treatment of patients in lunatic asylums has left a lot to be desired.

Bedlam conjures up images of madmen, chaos and noise. More than any other word in the English language, it darkly hints at the ‘madness’ that can afflict each and every one of us. This maligned word comes from the Bethlehem, or Bethlem, Royal Hospital, one of the earliest British asylums for housing the mentally ill. In fact, it was the first hospital in England specifically designed to care for these individuals. Founded back in the 13th century, it saw notable inmates such as Mary Frith, a cross-dressing thief who was sent there in the 1640s.

But it was in the 17th and 18th centuries that Bedlam really became infamous. Inmates had once been chained up or locked in their cells if they were deemed to be dangerous or disturbing to others — otherwise, they had relative freedom. As the 17th century progressed, there were an increasing number of complaints of corrupt staff and poor diets, with several patients suffering from starvation. There were only two meals a day, the meagre food being mainly bread and meat with few vegetables. At the time, it was believed that madness could be exacerbated by rich foods.

Cold baths were a common treatment from the 1680s, and patients were subject to bloodletting or had blisters raised on their skin in the belief that it could cure hysteria. Many of the therapies resulted in pain, vomiting or diarrhoea, with the blisters leading to burns and sores.

For all to see

Until 1770, visitors could make a trip to Bethlem in much the same way as we might go to a museum or play today. Outings to see the patients became part of the holiday season, with many guests travelling to London at Christmas or Easter. Although the visits were designed to raise money for the hospital and provoke compassion among the wider community, the inmates were ultimately there for others’ entertainment. If you were able to pay the fee, you could stand and watch them ‘perform’ in their cells. Asylums became like human zoos, creating entertainment for the wealthy and the fashionable.

However, some visits inspired literature. One poem from the 1790s, entitled ‘On Visiting Bedlam’, referred to a “poor fond maid, oppressed by woe and care”. She was once the envy of her town and a man fell in love with her, but her parents refused to let them marry. The suitor went off to sea and never came back while the woman was driven to madness by grief. The poem was actually quite modern in its approach, seeing madness as the consequence of social situations and pressures, recognising the importance of understanding the individual’s background in order to help them.

“Asylums became like human zoos, creating entertainment”
Another poem, from ten years earlier, again focused on a woman in Bethlem. It referred to a "little cell that was home to "poor Chloe", incarcerated when she became melancholic: as a result of "broken vows and faithless men". By the time this poem was written, the open, free-paying visits to the mentally afflicted at Bethlem had ended, replaced by a system whereby visitors had to obtain a "ticket" granted by a governor. Patients such as Hannah Snell, a woman who had posed as a male soldier and who died in Bethlem in 1792, benefited from not being "on show" – however, the inmates suffered at their poor treatment was no longer witnessed by the public. Instead, it was hidden away behind closed doors.

In 1774, the Madness Act was passed. While it had been implemented by this time. The County Lunatic Asylum was declared to be physically restrained and coerced into behaving.

A system of county and borough lunatic asylums had been implemented by this time. The County Asylum Act of 1808 recognised that private asylums were more profit-seeking businesses than charitable institutions trying to help patients, regardless of their economic status. They therefore encouraged the building of public asylums. As this wasn't mandatory, only 15 were built in the following decades. It was only in 1845 that it became compulsory.

### Victorian Asylums

Acting out

Throughout this era, there had been a system of private 'madhouses' in Britain designed to hide the afflicted away as they brought embarrassment and shame to their families. Public asylums later developed over the 19th century. In both madhouses and public asylums, patients could be treated violently and were subjected to harsh methods of restraint and punishment.

In Bethlem Hospital, for example: one man got up from his bed one day and quietly walked a few steps away from his cell door. The keepers immediately grabbed him, threw him onto his bed and placed his legs in locks, without asking him what he was doing. It was noted that "chains are universally substituted for the strait-lace", and that those who suffered from incontinence were left to lie in their beds, naked, as if it was felt they would be "less troublesome in that state when then up and dressed".

Bethlem Hospital had originally been situated near where Liverpool Street Station now stands, and it moved to purpose-built premises at Moorfields towards the end of the 17th century. In the early 19th century, with its buildings again decaying and proving dangerous, it moved to St George's Fields in Southwark, opening in 1815. By this time, there was increasing disquiet over the conditions in which the mentally ill were housed.

One particular scandal centred on the York Lunatic Asylum, which had opened in the 1970s. After rumours surrounding the treatment of patients reached local magistrate Godfrey Higgins, he began to investigate. Several cases involving patients being treated violently by staff came to light, and it emerged that the asylum was faced with poor finances even though the number of admissions continued to grow. Funds had been misspent and debts concealed; rich patients were treated better than the poor, and secret baths housed female patients who had been completely neglected by staff.

After all the members of staff were dismissed in 1814, a parliamentary enquiry was held. It found that "some new provision of law is indispensably necessary for ensuring better care being taken of insane persons... a very large proportion of whom are entirely neglected by their relations and friends." It recognised that the lumping together of the 'insane' as one homogenous group was not helpful – for example, patients who were 'outrageous' in their behaviour were kept with those who were 'quiet and inoffensive', even when their care needs were actually very different. The enquiry looked at the wider issue in housing and treating 'lunatics', and it had found that inmates were treated as though they were animals. One man, James Norris, was singled out for having been chained to a wall for over 12 years. In 1774, the Madness Act was passed. While it operated for half a century, it failed to mention, for example, what should be done with pauper lunatics – the poor and destitute members of society who could not afford a private madhouse – and other unsatisfactory provisions. Finally, in 1828, a Madhouse Act was passed, which recognised that the Act of 1774 was unfit for purpose. It set out how asylums ought to be licensed and monitored.

A system of county and borough lunatic asylums had been implemented by this time. The County Asylum Act of 1808 recognised that private asylums were more profit-seeking businesses than charitable institutions trying to help patients, regardless of their economic status. They therefore encouraged the building of public asylums. As this wasn't mandatory, only 15 were built in the following decades. It was only in 1845 that it became compulsory.

### Terrifying Treatments

**Straitjacket Hell**

The straitjacket was aimed at preventing individuals from causing harm to themselves and others. It had very long sleeves which could be crossed over the chest and tied to the back of the jacket.

**Chained Up**

Chains were used to confine lunatics to the walls at home and in institutions. They might also be kept naked and alone in cold conditions while chained for they were seen as little better than animals.

**Hydrotherapy**

Water was used in various ways to treat the insane by the early 20th century. 'Continuous' baths involved the individual being put in a canvas hammock in a tub, and lowered up to the chin. ‘Whirling chair’ was occasionally used in such cases as a panacea for most ailments. They were placed on the body to draw blood.

**In Restraints**

In the early 19th century, restraints were used on the insane, thus limiting their movements. It was believed that the mentally ill should be physically restrained and coerced into behaving.

**Bleeding Leeches**

Leeches were used for treating both physical and mental illnesses – in fact, they were seen as a panacea for most ailments. They were placed on the body to draw blood.

**GETTING BETTER**

In many ways, the umbrella term 'madness' continued to be applied to individuals suffering from various ailments and conditions. It could also be used in a patriarchal Victorian society to control women by defining those displaying frustration or sexual feelings as suffering from 'hysterics' and locking them away from their greater families.
MAD, BAD OR IDIOTIC?

There were many different ‘types’ of madness

MELANCHOLIA

Depressive, sad, low, sombre

It was the feeling that would subsequently be known as depression. Today, we would refer to it as depression.

IDIOCY

Careless, reckless, indiscreet, unwise

An idiot was someone with a total lack of intellect and mental functioning.

HYSTERIA

Shouting, nervousness, anger

Hysteria was a condition commonly associated with women, and they had to be diagnosed in such a way as to display inappropriate behaviour. In the Victorian era, this could be interpreted as sexual behaviour.

MANIA

Excessive excitement, mania

Mania could cover a variety of excitement. One of Bethlem’s most famous patients, the artist Richard Dadd, had been admitted in a “hopeless state of moping idiocy’, and only allowed to paint pictures if he progressed. This allowed him to express himself, and his work was later admired.

IMBECILITY

To be moronic, silly

An imbecile was an individual who functioned at a lower than average level compared to the general population.

By giving them a medical diagnosis and a spell in an asylum, their family’s reputations could be kept safe from scandal. However, by the mid-19th century, a more humanistic view of treating the mentally ill was being introduced, especially in Bethlem and other institutions. The aim was to make the patients’ enforced stay as enjoyable as possible, without over-stimulating or exciting them. They now had beauty to look at, such as beautiful grounds filled with statues and flowers, and they were able to take part in organised exercise, including ‘walks for pleasure’. Tramps outside of the asylum were organised for those able to take part – some patients were seen visiting the British Museum and Kew Gardens, while others were taken to art exhibitions. It was noted that a regular change of scene helped ‘cure’ many patients where previous treatments had failed. But, perhaps just as importantly, doctors were able to remove the fear that members of the public often felt towards the patients by regularly introducing them into ‘normal’ society.

The presence of these deemed ‘mad’ actually helped to normalise those who were different, and it aided them in being accepted by others. As one newspaper reported, the trips out of the asylum ‘do much to remove from the affliction of madness those surroundings of fear which have hitherto tended so much to aggravate the calamity, and place the subject of it beyond the reach of active sympathy and timely help’.

Additionally, there were monthly parties in Bethlem with singing, piano playing and even lectures on different subjects, such as foreign travel. One patient, a bookbinder who had been admitted in a “hopeless state of moping idiocy’, was so stimulated by one of these that his condition started to improve dramatically. He was able to take on a job in the asylum, restoring some of the aged and damaged books in the library.

One of Bethlem’s most famous patients, the artist Richard Dadd, had been admitted in 1843 after killing his father and claiming that he had heard voices commanding him to commit the murder. He spent the rest of his life, a further 23 years, in Bethlem and Broadmoor, and was allowed to continue painting – although some of his creations revealed his wretched state of mind, as he spent all of his days incarcerated with others who he had little in common with.

PSYCHIATRIC RESEARCH

In Dublin, William Stanley, surgeon and proprietor of the Jameson House asylum, advertised his establishment as being a “delightful and healthy mansion” with parks, woods and extensive grounds that the patients could stroll through. He stressed the “family” environment of the institution and that his mansion looked just like “any private residence”. In addition, various doctors and inspectors were now focusing on the fact that lunatics should be treated as sentient beings.

The medical superintendent of the West Riding Pauper Lunatic Asylum, Dr James Crichton-Browne, invited medical students to the establishment for tutorials in an effort to further psychiatric research. He also studied brain pathology in an attempt to better understand his patients. In 1895, a local government board and the medical superintendent of the West Riding Pauper Lunatic Asylum, Dr James Crichton-Browne, invited medical students to the establishment for tutorials in an effort to further psychiatric research.
It was around this time, too, that the ‘talking cure’ was developed. This pioneering method encouraged patients to talk about their lives and emotions to release any suppressed trauma. In the last decade of the 19th century, the term was adopted by renowned Austrian neurologist Sigmund Freud, and it later formed part of the basis for his clinical method of psychoanalysis.

The 20th century brought further change for Bedlam and its patients. In the 1930s, the hospital relocated from its old, decrepit site in Southwark to leafy Beckenham in Bromley. Today, the Imperial War Museum occupies the old Southwark building which was gifted to the local authorities by a philanthropic owner, Lord Rothermere. However, the two wings of the notorious Victorian building have since been demolished.

In the early 20th century, the word ‘bedlam’ was used to denote any irrational decision. Although it was most commonly utilised to refer to unwise political decisions, it was noted that all classes could suffer from “idiocy out of Bedlam” – not just the elite or the labouring classes, but also the middling sorts. Bedlam had become a byword for any kind of stupidity, and its long and real existence at a place to house the mentally ill had become sidelined rather than forgotten altogether.

Today, in an era where mental illness is treated much more sympathetically, the tales of the bedlam in Bethlem Royal Hospital are there to remind us both of the horrific attitudes to mental health of the past, and the laudable attempts of those throughout history who have worked tirelessly to change the situation.

Colin Gale is the archivist at Bethlem: Museum of the Mind. We asked him about what the museum contains, and what it offers those who want to find out more about the history of mental health care.

**What do the archival collections at Bethlem include?**

The archival collections at Bethlem: Museum of the Mind consist of committee minutes dating all the way back to 1553, admission records from 1683 onwards, medical records from as far back as 1815 and many other unique items of paperwork. These all come together to form invaluable rich resources for reconstructing hospital and patient life over centuries.

**What can you tell us about your forthcoming exhibition?**

The museum opened a new temporary exhibition at the beginning of March. Its primary focus is the work of artist Cynthia Pell, who is sometimes also known as Mrs Cynthia Weldon. Encased: The Work of Cynthia Pell will be at Bethlem: Museum of the Mind until 22 June. For more information, visit museumofthemind.org.uk
Tamerlane's Reign of Terror

The so-called 'Scourge of God' built an empire that left people quaking from Damascus to Delhi

Written by Alice Barnes-Brown

The bloody reputation of Mongol ruler Tamerlane precedes him. Remembered for his gruesome military campaigns in which tens of millions of people may have been slaughtered, the great warrior Tamerlane — otherwise known as Timur — possessed a vast territory stretching from Delhi to the Mediterranean. As the most powerful ruler in the 14th-century Islamic world, he was both feared and respected by his contemporaries. However, his legacy in the West mainly comes from obscene caricatures, such as Christopher Marlowe's Tamburlaine, in which the savage emperor treats human life with as much respect as he would an ant. But was 'Timur the Lame' merely a simple, brutish warrior? A century and a half before Timur's birth, Genghis Khan roamed the plains of Central Asia. Famously spending his life pillaging and murdering, when Genghis died, the Mongol conqueror split the spoils of his empire between four of his descendants. Chagatai, his second eldest son, was granted a large tract of land. Becoming known as the Chagatai Khanate, the steppes, deserts and mountains of the region made it one of the most beautiful parts of Genghis Khan's old empire — but it was also one of the most remote.

Their neighbours to the north, the Golden Horde, were a scary bunch. Ruled by Genghis Khan's grandson, these lawless tribes pillaged towns and villages from Eastern Europe to the Altai Mountains. The Chagatai Khansate, meanwhile, largely subsisted on nomadic herding — otherwise known as Timur — and was heavily fraught with internal divisions. The khansate quickly split into two parts — the powerful east was called Moghulistan and the less fortunate west was known as Transoxiana.

It was in this divided world that Timur was born in 1336. His father, Tatarai, was a minor nobleman from the Waras tribe — a group of nomads that made their home in the area south of Samarkand. The young Timur never stayed in one place for all that long, as his clan would repeatedly uproot themselves (and their livestock) to find the best grazing pastures whenever the seasons changed. Realising that there was profit to be made in illegal activity, Timur turned to petty crime. His first exploits involved rustling sheep from neighbours and he quickly added banditry to his list of dodgy dealings, making travellers tremble in their boots. A man with a clear talent for violence, Timur apparently worked as a mercenaries in his 20s, and was once seriously injured by an arrow during a skirmish.

Timur was a man with a clear talent for violence.
It's estimated that Timur's armies killed up to 200,000 people—or five per cent of the world’s total population—but this is impossible to verify.

In Isfahan, he declared the Timurid Empire, aligning himself with the khan of Moghulistan. Timur's nickname meaning 'Timur the Lame'—which he earned during the Battle of Langchuan in 1370, when a horse tangled with a tree, causing Timur to fall and break his right arm, this unfortunate incident led to him being christened Timur-i Leng—a Turkic diminutive meaning 'Timur the Short'.

For some, this injury would mean the end of their career, but the Timur's war continued. His ambitions knew no bounds and he was the first to conquer all of the lands from Korea to the Caspian Sea. Never one for diplomacy, Timur would destroy their cities and enslav or murder everyone inside.

Timur's mission was to restore Mongol rule to the glory days of Genghis Khan. He needed a young widow, Saray Mulk Khanum. She was a direct descendant of Genghis Khan on her father's side and Timur believed that he would be able to use this to make him a more convincing leader in the eyes of the people. They were not completely correct; they soon met a grisly end. Timur wasted no time in showing his enemies who was boss in the most brutal way possible. He spent the first ten years of his rule establishing supremacy over his neighbours, demanding they surrender to him. If they refused, he would destroy their cities and enslav or murder everyone inside.

Timur entered Isfahan in 1391, following his defeat of the Safavids in the Battle of Isfahan. The city was quickly taken, and Timur's forces moved on to Qandahar, where he installed Ilyas Khoja, the khan's son, as his puppet ruler. Timur then turned his attention to Transoxiana, the archenemy of the Mongols. Timur had conquered all of the land from Korea to the Caspian Sea, but he wanted to expand his empire further. He decided to conquer the Ming dynasty, which controlled China.

Timur marched to Ankara to meet the Ottoman emperor’s troops. He forced the Ottomans to surrender by demanding a huge ransom from its citizens, then let his army loose to do as they pleased. Only infant children and the elderly were spared death. The port city of Smyrna, defended by the Knights Hospitaller after it was conquered during the Crusades, was too tempting a target for Timur to resist. The city was taken, and its citizens were forced to pay tribute to Timur, so he attacked them with siege engines and blocked them into a corner. They met a grisly end. Timur wasted no time in pillaging this once great garden city, killing the large number of Christian refugees and Muslims alike, he turned the city to the ground.

Delhi 1398

After Timur crossed the Indus river, he headed straight for the fortified Delhi Sultanate. One story goes that Timur understood that elephants were easily scared, so he sent camels with fire on their backs to wildly charge at the great beasts. The elephants wereag and the citizens of Delhi fled in terror. Timur then proceeded to lay siege to the city with thousands of soldiers, and Delhi was taken after a long battle.

In the end, Timur's empire was vast and wealthy, but his methods were brutal and cruel. He left behind a legacy of destruction and fear, but also of grandeur and splendor.

**EMPIRE OF BLOOD**

In his quest to be the next Genghis Khan, Timur conquered much of Asia.
In 1383, Persia found itself on Timur's hit list. The once mighty empire was weakened by internal strife and division, which Timur took full advantage of. Beginning with the conquest of Herat, he plundered the ancient city of its treasures and destroyed many of its important landmarks.

Beginning with the conquest of Herat, he plundered the ancient city of its treasures and Timur filled it with artists, architects and intellectuals from across Asia. Samarkand became a thriving hub of culture in the middle of Central Asia. As well as simply being vainglorious, Timur's reasons for building Samarkand as an ode to God and Islamic culture were entirely practical. He was keen to legitimise his rule by both invoking Genghis Khan and presenting his rule as a defender of Islam. Timur's personality cult centred on the notion that he was the 'Scourge of Allah', placed on Earth by God to defend the true religion. While he constantly flaunted the rules of Islam — namely, that Muslims should not kill — he invoked God often as a means of support for his military campaigns, legitimising them in the peoples' eyes. But as the empire expanded, it started to incorporate peoples of different faiths, which thus had to be born into submission. It was on this pretext that Timur invaded India in 1398. Having kept a watchful eye over the Muslim rulers of the Delhi Sultanate, the Mongol conqueror decided they had become too tolerant of their Hindu subjects and it was time for him to take matters into his own hands. In September 1398, Timur and his army of approximately 90,000 men crossed over the Indus River. Destroying cities on the way, he quickly defeated the sultan and laid waste to Delhi, which took over a year to be re-ruled. Timur even allegedly captured 90 war elephants from India and used them to haul stone back to Samarkand for a great mosque he was building in his capital.

A year later, Timur was on the hunt for his next conquest. This time, he looked west to the Ottoman Empire and its Mamluk Sultanate of Egypt. While both had powerful Muslim rulers, Timur saw them only as usurpers who had stolen territory that rightly belonged to the Mongols. The Ottoman sultan, Bayezid I, for example, had offended Timur by taking Mongol captives in Anatolia. Timur even tried to warn him off by sending him some serious hate mail in 1399. In a letter he wrote, "Thy obedience to the Quraan, in waging war against the infidels, is the sole consideration that prevents us from destroying thy country!"

Bayezid, on the other hand, was more phased. He responded with a cutting remark: "What are the arrows of the flying Tatar against the scimitars and battle-axes of my firm and invincible Janissaries?" So, an enraged Timur set out to test the Ottoman elite guard's invincibility. On his way to Constantinople, Timur reconquered Azerbaijan and Syria before destroying thy country. But as the empire expanded, it started to incorporate peoples of different faiths, which thus had to be born into submission. It was on this pretext that Timur invaded India in 1398. Having kept a watchful eye over the Muslim rulers of the Delhi Sultanate, the Mongol conqueror decided they had become too tolerant of their Hindu subjects and it was time for him to take matters into his own hands. In September 1398, Timur and his army of approximately 90,000 men crossed over the Indus River. Destroying cities on the way, he quickly defeated the sultan and laid waste to Delhi, which took over a year to be re-ruled. Timur even allegedly captured 90 war elephants from India and used them to haul stone back to Samarkand for a great mosque he was building in his capital.

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On special occasions, Timur would grant the public an audience with him. He was allegedly subjected to a variety of imaginative humiliations — from Timur using him as a footstool to being put on display in a golden cage. Territorial, some tales in Western Europe supported Timur. They thought he was helping them to achieve Christian goals by keeping the Ottoman — a powerful Islamic empire — on their doorstep. A beauty eye on Hungary at the time. Upon hearing of his victory at Ankara, England’s Henry IV and Charles VI of France sent messages declaring their congratulations to Timur.

Near Ankara, Bayezid met Timur’s army on 20 July 1402 for a dramatic showdown. Timur was already victorious, having crushed the troops led by Saad Khan and attacked his army from behind. After a short battle, the sultan was captured and dragged back to Samarkand. There, he was subjected to a variety of imaginative humiliations — from Timur using him as a footstool to being put on display in a golden cage. Territorial, some tales in Western Europe supported Timur. They thought he was helping them to achieve Christian goals by keeping the Ottoman — a powerful Islamic empire — on their doorstep. A beauty eye on Hungary at the time. Upon hearing of his victory at Ankara, England’s Henry IV and Charles VI of France sent messages declaring their congratulations to Timur.

The Spanish kingdom of Castile went even further and dispatched an envoy, led by Raynaldo de Cárlos, to Samarkand. Cárlos described in detail the wondrous and exotic goings-on he saw at Timur’s court. Arriving in 1404, he described Timur’s 15 palaces, which blended Islamic and Ottoman traditions. Some of them were constructed on a grand scale that could be pulled up and moved when necessary. Treated as an invincible guest, Timur’s patrons used him as a footstool to be put on display in a golden cage. Territorial, some tales in Western Europe supported Timur. They thought he was helping them to achieve Christian goals by keeping the Ottoman — a powerful Islamic empire — on their doorstep. A beauty eye on Hungary at the time. Upon hearing of his victory at Ankara, England’s Henry IV and Charles VI of France sent messages declaring their congratulations to Timur.

In December 1404, Timur’s army decided to turn around and head back home. The fearsome conqueror had his nose pierced like a pig. Just after Cárlos and his crew started on their long journey back to Madrid in November 1404, Timur set out for what would turn out to be his last campaign. Samarkand had been trading with Ming China for a long time, but Timur had grown tired of being treated like a vassal. For example, when a message from China arrived in 1395 calling the Mongol emperor “lord of the realms of the face of the earth”, and treating Timur like an inferior, he hurrah. Samarkand, his treasured city.

When he wasn’t away on campaign or killing people in droves, Timur loved to construct great monuments to his power and wealth. While very few are still standing in today, they give us a unique insight into the man’s personality and ambitions, according to Gur-e-Amir. Timur envisioned a city surrounded by the riskiest, boasting with people from all parts of his empire. In December 1404, Timur had decided to turn around and head back home. The fearsome conqueror had his nose pierced like a pig. Just after Cárlos and his crew started on their long journey back to Madrid in November 1404, Timur set out for what would turn out to be his last campaign. Samarkand had been trading with Ming China for a long time, but Timur had grown tired of being treated like a vassal. For example, when a message from China arrived in 1395 calling the Mongol emperor “lord of the realms of the face of the earth”, and treating Timur like an inferior, he hurrah. Samarkand, his treasured city.
BUILDING THE BIG APPLE

Discover what the iconic New York City skyline looked like under construction

Written by Jessica Leggett

DIZZYING HEIGHTS

The first great age of New York City's skyscraper construction was from 1900-10. Unlike today, there were no health and safety regulations and this meant the men that built these great towers were not provided with hard hats or safety harnesses. But this didn't prevent workers from flocking to New York. Pictured here are some construction workers from 1912, precariously grasping onto the chains of a crane.

THE CITY WITHIN A CITY

The construction of the Rockefeller Center is well underway in this photograph from December 1934. The largest private building project at the time, the 14 original buildings of the centre were completed in 1940 by a workforce of over 40,000 people. In the decades since, another five buildings have been created, and the complex has developed into a cultural hub. Since the first official Christmas tree was erected in 1933, it has become one of the hallmarks for holiday tradition in New York, alongside the ice rink, which was installed in 1936. In 1985, it was designated as an NYC landmark, recognizing its importance to the city skyline. It was made a National Historic Landmark two years later.

BREAKING NEW GROUND

The construction of the Flatiron Building began in 1902. Situated between Fifth Avenue and Broadway, it boasts a unique triangular design. Originally called the Fuller Building after its tenants the Fuller Company, it was named after its architect, Daniel Burnham, because of its shape. Though it looks like a flat iron, the building is actually a right-angled triangle, which was one of the tallest buildings in the city. Initially, there were fears that the building would collapse because it was so thin, and utilized new steel framework. However, this allowed for it to be built quickly, taking just over a year to complete. The pointed end is only 2 metres wide.

RACE TO THE TOP

As one of the iconic gargoyles atop the Chrysler Building, American photographer and journalist Margaret Bourke-White literally reached new heights to get her shot. She is seen here in 1930, the same year the skyscraper was built. During construction, the Chrysler Building was competing with the Bank of Manhattan to become the world's tallest building; and it won after architect William van Alen allegedly erected a 38-metre spire in just 90 minutes. It remained the world's tallest building until the Empire State Building surpassed it a year later.
NEW YORK CITY

BUILDING BRIDGES

Between 1883 and 1909, three suspension bridges were built along the East River in New York City: the Brooklyn Bridge, the Williamsburg Bridge and the Manhattan Bridge, which is pictured here in 1909, during construction. Designed by Leon Moisseiff, it was built to relieve the overcrowding on the neighbouring Brooklyn Bridge. The Manhattan Bridge can be crossed by foot, car or train, although the subway trains created problems for the bridge when the tracks first opened in 1917. Each time two trains entered at the same time, the bridge moved up to 2 and a half metres. Structural problems have led to NYC spending millions of dollars every year to keep the bridge going.

SILVER SERVICE

In this photograph, taken on 14 November 1930, two steel workers are served lunch by waiters while on a girder high above New York City. The building under construction was the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, which at 191 metres was the world’s tallest hotel for quarter of a century, between 1931 and 1957. The hotel was originally two separate buildings—the Waldorf, owned by William Waldorf Astor, and the Astoria, owned by his cousin John Jacob Astor IV. The story goes that after a bitter feud, the pair joined their hotels together to create the Waldorf-Astoria, which was knocked down in 1929 (to make way for the Empire State Building) and rebuilt on Park Avenue.

MIDTOWN MONSTROSITY

Taken on 16 June 1962, two construction workers pose on the 59th floor of the Pan Am Building (now MetLife building), in New York City. The Pan American World Airways, owned by the Astor family, had its global headquarters at the State Building with its rooftop helipad. This photograph was taken for the Pan American World Airways, and allowed a film crew access from the rooftop helipad to John F Kennedy Airport from 1960. The building became a symbol of the golden age of air travel between the 1950s and 1960s, but the helicopter service ended in 1968 as there were not enough passengers to keep it going. The building was abandoned after three months following a tragic accident that killed five people.

RISING FROM THE ASHES

After terrorists attack the World Trade Center towers on 9/11, the architects proposed ambitious plans for reconstruction in New York. Some said the designs were impractical and that America could not afford to build such a grandiose structure. The original 9/11 Memorial opened in 2011 and two years later the new 1 World Trade Center building was the tallest in the Western Hemisphere. It reached 1,776 feet (541 metres) high—a symbolic reminder that the United States declared its independence in 1776.
NEW YORK CITY

WHAT A VIEW

The photograph ‘Lunch Atop a Skyscraper’ is one of the most iconic images in history. Carrying and enjoying their lunch breaks, the 11 men are pictured on the 69th floor of the RCA building of the Rockefeller Center, perched on a thin beam suspended almost 260 metres in the air. It is commonly assumed that the photo captures a spontaneous moment but in reality it was staged by public relations firm Kfi, although the men featured were all real construction workers. The New York Herald Tribune published the photo in October 1932 but the identity of the photographer remains unknown — there were three photographers working that day and any one of them could have taken the famous shot.

NEW YORK’S TALLEST BUILDINGS

NEW YORK CITY

BUILDING THE BIG APPLE

THE ‘BILLIONAIRE BUILDING’

Located in Manhattan, the ultra-modern One57 skyscraper is pictured a year after its completion in 2014. Home to the most expensive residence ever sold in New York City, at a record total of over $100 million, the building has triggered a number of so-called ‘supertall’ projects in the city. As One57 and other supertalls are situated in the vicinity of Central Park, there are fears they could cast shadows onto the park and its green space frequented by New Yorkers and tourists alike. There are also concerns that many of the floors in these buildings will never be occupied, as they are unaffordable to the super-rich, taking up valuable space in cramped Manhattan.

THE HAND OF FRIENDSHIP

One of New York’s defining landmarks, the Statue of Liberty, was commissioned to commemorate the 100-year anniversary of the American Declaration of Independence. It was a gift from the people of France but was a joint effort between the two countries, as the Americans built the pedestal and the French created the statue. It was designed by a French sculptor, Frédéric-Auguste Bartholdi and built by Alexandre Gustave Eiffel, the man responsible for the Eiffel Tower. In this image, Bartholdi explains the construction of the statue’s hand to a visitor. So that it could be transported, the statue was broken down into 350 pieces and reassembled on Liberty Island. A popular tourist attraction, approximately 4.5 million people visited Lady Liberty in 2016.
How the soldier-statesman set an example of excellence and British military might that inspired his most famous descendant of all — Winston Churchill

The liberty of the British Isles is under threat from tyranny in Europe. The country knows it can’t survive alone — it needs friends to form a mighty alliance. Churchill needs to act quickly and with great cunning to secure the relationships that will save the entire continent. His actions at this crucial stage will transform him into one of Britain’s greatest war heroes.

You might be forgiven for assuming this sorry scene took place in 1940, in the earliest stages of World War II. However, it’s 1702, the conflict is the War of Spanish Succession and the Churchill in question is actually John, 1st Duke of Marlborough. He was a man whose life would mirror and later inspire one of the most famous Britons in history.

Churchill’s hero worship of John did not simply come from their shared bloodline — it was also down to a very intimate understanding of the pressures placed upon him.

John Churchill was born the son of (another) Winston Churchill, a Member of Parliament who had made the unfortunate decision to fight on the losing side of the English Civil War. Supporting the Cavaliers had cost him dearly and left his large family impoverished. It is believed that the Churchill family motto ‘Faithful but Unfortunate’ arose from this era. However, their fortunes did improve after the Restoration in 1660, and the young John served as a page to the duke of York — the future James II.

Like his famous descendant, John was a very intelligent young man who found a calling in military service. Just as Winston would join the British Army, John set his heart on becoming a soldier and joined the Grenadier Guards in 1667. His military journey saw him serve in the Franco-Dutch War in 1672, when he was promoted to the rank of captain. He went on to gain a commendation at the Siege of Maastricht where he saved the duke of Monmouth’s life — a deed that allegedly earned praise from the French king, Louis XIV.

His illustrious career and military acumen ensured that he rose rapidly through the ranks. He was respected by the higher-ups and his courage had earned him the admiration of the common soldiers. This is not dissimilar to the attention Winston received for his military career and his accounts of the battles he witnessed. Both men were propelled to relative stardom at a young age, and both would feel the resulting pressure and expectation.

Winston’s similarities to John did not end on the battlefield. When John returned to Saint James’s Palace, his affections were drawn to the young Sarah Jennings, a beautiful attendant to Princess Anne. Her family had been impoverished by debts and she was hardly the most obvious or appealing prospect for the eligible war hero. Nonetheless, John was besotted. His father wished him to marry a wealthier woman to ease the family debts — but John chose love.

It is clear to see why Winston would feel an affinity for John’s decision. After all, he too married for love. His future wife, Clementine Hozier, was the subject of public scrutiny, her true parentage unknown, as her parents divorced and her supposed father abandoned her. Her family sank down the social ladder and were forced to move home. Despite her past, Winston was captivated by Clementine.

Society doubted the staying power of their relationship — a daughter of divorce and a wild military man — but their union lasted 57 years. The marriages of Winston and John were remarkably similar as both men found their match in strong-willed and remarkably loyal women, who stayed by their sides until death did them part.

Like Winston, John was not fated to spend his whole life on the battlefield — politics held some appeal to both men. Upon the ascension of James II, John was appointed lieutenant general, effectively commander-in-chief, as well as peer of the realm. However, England was in the middle of religious rebellion and as one was defeated, another emerged.
Ist Duke of Marlborough

Marmaduke Butler became the first of the Butler family to be created Duke of Marlborough.

In theory, John was loyal to James II but he grew uneasy about the king’s Catholic leanings. For England, the Holy Roman Empire and the Dutch Republic, this was unacceptable.

As much as William distrusted John, he couldn’t deny that he was best suited to the role of creating a powerful coalition capable of toppling the French crown. William, however, would not live to see the war run its course and when he died in March 1702, John played the part Winston would later find himself in — mounting a war that his army might lose the battle. John’s stark resolve and overriding self-belief were not dissimilar to traits displayed by Winston which the so-called Glorious Revolution broke out.

John’s resolve and overriding self-belief were not dissimilar to traits displayed by Winston, who consolidated both his military and domestic leadership of Parliament when he was appointed prime minister. However, one of John’s most valuable lessons to Winston was the importance of friendships with allies in the midst of war. The duke formed strong friendships with Queen Anne; Robert Haldane, the speaker of the House of Commons and the High Treasurer Lord Godolphin, all of whom helped him to influence and gain favour where possible. Winston described these friendships as “the crucible from which the power and glory of England were soon to rise, glinting among nations.” In fact, the idea of friendship became so important to him that he used it to measure all historical figures.

The defeat at Blenheim on 13th August 1704 cost the French 38,000 men. Prince Eugene’s army was surrounded by the Seven Years’ War and the Franco-Dutch War. The defeat at Blenheim was the first indication that any army might lose the battle.

Blenheim Palace became the home of the Churchill family for the following three centuries.

Marlborough's Finest Hour

How John defeated the invincible army of Louis XIV at Blenheim

01 STORM OF LEAD

For his devastating attack on the village of Blenheim, Marlborough was to be known as the Duke of Marlborough. Despite the French being numerically superior, he led a calculated and measured campaign against them.

02 GREAT BATTERY

Prince Eugene's attack is spearheaded by Prince Leopold of Anhalt-Dessau's batteries. A barrage of cannon fire rips the French army asunder.

03 PUT TO FLIGHT

The Prussians lose ten colours in the flank attack. The French army is in full retreat.

04 DANGEROUS CROSSING

As Marlborough prepares for his next attack on the enemy, he looks across a river to see that his army might lose the battle.

05 OF TWISTED COMMANDER

Lt Gen Marquis de Clermont, the commander of the French infantry, led a charge on the allied line. The allied infantry came as many musketeers inside the village that there is no space on the perimeter for many of them to line up on the landing.

06 MISSED OPPORTUNITY

Unfortunately for the Franco-Dutch division, Lord Godolphin, commander of the allies, failed to see that if he sent a column of infantry and cavalry north from Blenheim to exploit the rear of the Prince Eugene’s Dutch army, he might not have the support of the allied army and the stage for a French victory.

07 COVERING FIRE

After Marlborough's brothers, Lt Gen Charles Churchill, and his adjutant were wounded, the French focused their fire on the village of Blenheim. The French infantry bore great fire in their line as the cavalry could fall back and support them unharmed.

Winston was an immesely loyal man

The defeat at Blenheim was one of the greatest military victories of the century.

CHURCHILL ON CHURCHILL

How Winston poured his admiration into arguably his finest literary work

It’s no surprise that Winston was inspired by and proud of the famous ancestor, John. He admired both his courage and not only invested him with the same villainous brush that John had wielded but also the same villainous light. This opinion was reflected in Winston's efforts.

Although John was respected for his military victories, previous biographers had praised him in an unduly light. The real-time Thomas Carlyle, writing some 80 years earlier than Winston, Macaulay's work seemed to echo John's switch of loyalties from James to William of Orange, pointing it in a selfish, cowardly light. This painted an unflattering, and part of Winston’s depiction of his own version of John's story was to refute this distasteful image.

Winston's biography of his ancestor, Marlborough: His Life and Times opened four volumes and the first was published in 1910. In the preface Winston stated, “It is my hope to recall the great deeds from the past, and not only those with which he is associated, but also to bring the living and intimate to modern eyes.”

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The Marlborough Family Tree

John and Winston weren't the only famous figures to bloom from this illustrious family tree.

The most important friendship for John was with Prince Eugene of Savoy, general of the Holy Roman Empire's Imperial Army. John and Eugene were like two peas in a pod as they both held immense control and influence over their armies and each understood how important the alliance would be to defeating France. It also helped, of course, that they were both remarkably talented military commanders. Combined, they were unstoppable. The friendship and close bond between the two men meant that their armies acted as a united force.

John, with the help of Eugene, enjoyed victory after victory. At Blenheim, the dynamic duo delivered a crushing defeat to their French and Bavarian foes, turning the tide of the war in their favor. This victory owed a great deal of thanks to the synergy between the different forces which came together to deliver the blow. Winston wrote that Eugene and John acted as "two lobes of the same brain... in constant touch with each other". There is no doubt that he would have remembered this important example during World War II when he, too, formed a very close connection with a powerful ally – Franklin D. Roosevelt, the President of the United States.

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Bluffer’s Guide
The Emergency  IRELAND, 1939-46

What was it?
When the world went to war for the second time in 1939, Ireland opted to remain neutral. But that’s not to say the country was unaffected by the conflict. Food and fuel were rationed as the Battle of the Atlantic and similar sea skirmishes cut off vital imports. In fact, petrol became so scarce that horses and carts once again grew in popularity while bicycles became the standard way to get around in towns.

Concerned about security, the Irish government passed the Emergency Powers Act. As well as becoming a byword for the era, this law gave the government unprecedented control. The state could imprison people without trial, censor the media and had a greater say over the economy, freezing wages and restricting trade unions.

In practice, Ireland’s neutrality favoured the Allies. American and British aircrews that crashed in Ireland would be free to move around, while Axis pilots were locked up. The Irish authorities also secretly provided World War II, the Irish army intelligence and other assistance to the Allies.

Where did it happen?
When Germany marched on Poland, Ireland had only been a self-ruling nation for 17 years. It only had a small, ill-equipped army and few defences, so becoming embroiled in a global conflict risked the country being invaded and occupied. Relations with Britain also remained tense, with some fearing that asking the Irish people to make common cause with their former colonial masters would result in a civil war like the one that followed the 1921 Anglo-Irish Treaty.

The Emergency Powers Act was as much a response to internal threats as external ones. In January 1939, the paramilitary Irish Republican Army (IRA) — who had lost the civil war — reaffirmed that it did not recognise the Irish state or the partition of Northern Ireland, declaring war on Britain. Neville Chamberlain’s son narrowly escaped a bombing in north Kerry and several English cities were also attacked. Using the government’s new powers, hundreds of IRA members were incarcerated without trial and six were executed between 1940 and 1944.

Did you know?
While Ireland remained neutral and didn’t fight in World War II, the Irish army grew from 7,000 in 1939 to 41,000 by 1944.

Who was involved?
Eamon de Valera 1882-1975
As Irish head of state during The Emergency, he advocated that neutrality was the best policy to maintain national unity.

Seamus O’Donovan 1896-1979
An IRA volunteer who led a campaign of sabotage against Britain in 1939-40, even working with Germany’s intelligence service.

James Dillon 1902-86
Deputy leader of the Fine Gael party, he was the only sitting Irish politician to oppose neutrality and advocate joining the Allies.

Why did it happen?
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Queen Victoria had been assassinated?

A lone gunman could have plunged Britain into an age of autocracy but kept Hanover out of the Austro-Prussian War

What did happen when Edward Oxford tried to shoot Queen Victoria?

Victoria was 21 years old and pregnant with her second child when Edward Oxford made his attempt on her life on 10 June 1840. As was her habit, the queen and Prince Albert were riding in a carriage on Constitution Hill, just outside Buckingham Palace. Oxford tried to shoot them, but no shots were fired. Instead, he turned his gun on himself and died instantly. Whether the bullet had found its mark, history would have been very different indeed.

What would her death have meant for Europe?

Victoria was 21 years old and pregnant with her second child when Edward Oxford tried to shoot her. If she had died, the next in line to the throne was King George III’s son, Ernest Augustus, king of Hanover. Ernest Augustus had ruled in Hanover since 1837 and was massively unpopular in Britain. He was widely regarded as a weak monarch, who sported a disfiguring facial scar, Ernest was a hardline Tory who had made his mark immediately upon arriving in his new realm. He dissolved parliament, suspended the disputed Hanoverian constitution and ordered that all holders of public office must swear an allegiance to the crown under threat of expulsion. Though his moves did bring a shifting and conflicted political system into line, things would hardly have been settled in 1840, when the queen would have been called to Britain to take his place on the throne, renewing the personal union between Hanover and Britain under his rule.

The next in line to the throne was King George III’s son, Ernest Augustus, king of Hanover. Erne	st Augustus had ruled in Hanover since 1837 and was massively unpopular in Britain. If the late queen’s young husband became king, he would be called to Britain to take his place on the throne, renewing the personal union between Hanover and Britain under his rule.

Would Ernest Augustus have retained popularity in the longer term?

With the new king as hard-line as ever, the honeymoon period would not have lasted. He was likely to prove a dominating monarch, used to the absolutism of Hanover, and he had always held strong views on Ireland. When the Irish potato famine struck, Ernest Augustus would have seen his opportunity to hit the country hard and would have personally intervened to prevent the repeal of the Corn Laws. In protest at this unprecedented intrusion into parliamentary business, Robert Peel would probably have stood down as prime minister and Ernest Augustus would look to steadily grow his power, appointing hardliner Lord George Bentinck to lead a new ultra Tory government.

With famine left to sweep through Ireland, the people of Britain would become restless once more. The tensions would return, with gossip linking Ernest Augustus to the assassination of Queen Victoria. With Oxford long since executed for treason, he would have been known as the king’s patsy, used to remove the obstacle of the young queen and rushed to the gallows to silence him.

What if...

Queen Victoria had been assassinated?

A lone gunman could have plunged Britain into an age of autocracy but kept Hanover out of the Austro-Prussian War
What if...

How would it be different?

The young Queen Victoria, Real timeline, was I, it was me that did it."

While she is riding in an open-top carriage.

Pistols at Queen Victoria

Alternate timeline... 

As king, he might have been an autocrat but he wasn't a fool. As the man who opened the door to the Prussians.

He was well aware that the people could be won by more peaceful methods. Rather than sweeping reform, he would most likely attempt to stamp his influence on the country through its landscape and culture, a tried and tested approach. But as did his father before him, he might possibly funding into the arts, as well as the transport infrastructure, laying the foundations for a new network that would eventually cross the entire country.

With the careful stewardship of Lord Bentinck, the sovereign would continue his Hanoverian policy of allowing all social classes to hold ministerial office. In practice, however, this promising development might prove to be little more than lip service thanks to the machinations of the ultra-provincial government that would provide the backbone of the monarch's support. Catholics would be barred from holding any office regardless of class or party.

When Ernest Augustus dies in 1851, what would become of his territories?

Ernest Augustus' two crowns would be inherited by his son, George V of Hanover and Britain. Like his father, George was a believer in absolutism. Aware that many considered him an unsuitable candidate for monarch since he was totally blind, he became determined to make himself known as a hard and uncompromising king and to make his mark on the throne.

If his father ascended to the British throne thanks to Oxford's assassination of Queen Victoria, George V would have been 21 years old when he became heir to the throne. The young crown prince had already tried to beat the long-term succession in 1830. With a quick marriage now a matter of urgency, the easiest candidate for the role would have been Princess Augusta of Cambridge. As daughter of Prince Adolphus, she was George's cousin, and they would be expected to set to work on producing the much-needed heir. Far from a proclivity for change, in a changing Europe George would have been seen as a dinosaur, embodying a royal despotism that was swiftly becoming a thing of the past. From his home in England he might attempt to rule both his territories as monarch of the new nation of power would not be held firmly, and when the Austro-Prussian War broke out, it would prove a fateful conflict for King George V.

Would George V have brought Britain into the Austro-Prussian War, or would British influence have kept Hanover out?

Since George theoretically now ruled Hanover and Britain, plunging into the war of 1866 would have been easier said than done. The Act of Settlement included a provision stating, "This nation be not obliged to engage in any war for the defence of any dominions or territories which do not belong to the Crown of England, without the consent of Parliament."

George, however, was a man who passionately believed in the absolutism of the monarch, and in Hanover it was a power he enjoyed. In Britain, he would find things to be considerably more difficult. Reminded of Prussia's part in putting down the Hanoverian revolution of 1848, George would appeal for Britain to enter the conflict on their side. Parliament was unconvinced, however. Britain must remain neutral. With any efforts to dissolve Parliament and force British involvement in the war proving fruitless, George would be faced with a difficult choice.

Constitutionally, the personal union of Hanover and Britain was now causing serious headaches for all concerned. After all, how could a monarch be at war in one realm and neutral in another? The answer, of course, was that he could not. Understandably, it's unlikely that George V would have been willing to abdicate the powerful British throne in favour of the Hanoverian one. Having said that, he probably wouldn't have been willing to give Hanover, which his family had ruled for centuries, to Prussia either. Instead, Hanover's best path would have been to follow Britain into a declaration of neutrality during the Austro-Prussian War. This would have carried the implicit understanding that any belligerent who chose to invade Hanover's now might be seen in the same light as those who crossed the entire country.

What would have been the long-term fate of Britain?

The line of George V would naturally continue to his heir, George VI. Millions of his father's own troubles as a dual head of state, the new king might have been expected to learn from the problems his predecessor faced and immediately make enquiries about splitting the line of succession between the British and Hanoverian crowns. Ultimately, he would likely choose to abdicate his crown in Hanover—certainly the lesser of the two territories—in favour of his brother, thus keeping control of Britain and continuing the growth of its territories and allegiances. As the years passed, the succession of Ernest Augustus would settle into the role of constitutional monarch, presiding over a British Empire that spanned the globe.

How would it be different?

The bullet hits Oxford and Oxford is sued by extremists. Oxford makes no attempt to hide his actions, declaring: "It was I, it was me that did it."

Victoria's daughter born Victoria's daughter, later Princess Royal, was I, it was me that did it."

The Austro-Prussian War breaks out. The legendary Queen Victoria dies at the age of 85.

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The Austro-Prussian War breaks out. The legendary Queen Victoria dies at the age of 85.
Mary Magdalene

The prostitute turned Apostle to the Apostles is an enduring icon of Western civilisation, but we know surprisingly little about who she really was.

Early on Easter morning, when it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to Jesus' tomb. She knew where it was. By Jesus' death, all his male-disciples except one had abandoned him. It was the women — his mother, Mary Magdalene and others — who watched his agony to its end. They saw his buried burial too; in a tomb (cut into a quarry), the entrance of which was then closed with a rock.

Now here is Mary Magdalene, after the Sabbath; back at the tomb. She has brought ointment with her to clean Jesus' body. It is John's distinctive version of the story that we hear. The tomb is in a garden. Mary comes alone. She finds the rock pushed away from the entrance and the tomb itself empty. She goes to tell two of Jesus' principal disciples, Simon Peter and the anonymous "disciple whom Jesus loved." They come back with her, confirm her story and leave. There is something almost dull about these men.

Mary, far from leaving, is crying inconsolably. She looks once more into the tomb and sees two angels in white. She turns away and there in the garden is Jesus. She fails to recognise him, she thinks he is the gardener. "Woman," he asks, "why are you crying? Who are you looking for?" She wants only to know where Jesus' body has been put, so she can take it away. Now Jesus addresses her by name: "Mary." She recognises him and tries to touch or cling to him but he doesn't let her. "Go to my brothers and tell them that I am according to my father and your father, to my God and your God!"

This is a wonderful Bible story, extraordinarily intimate, at first achingly sad and then, even in its triumph, a scene of poignant renunciation. Mary Magdalene is given the supreme privilege. She is the first to see the risen Jesus on Easter Day and is commissioned to spread the news. No wonder she came to be called the Apostle to the Apostles in later centuries.

We are bound to wonder why was she so privileged? Who was she as a person, and indeed what was she to Jesus, that he appeared first to her? In our own time, speculation has run wild. Surely, we read in The Da Vinci Code, she was married to Jesus or they were lovers. 50 years ago, it would have been scandalous to admit how sensuous, how intimate Jesus' story becomes when he reaches Easter morning. It poses the question whether any other stories tell of Jesus and Mary in such terms.

Defining moment

Independent woman

Mary was among the women who travelled for Jesus and his followers as they travelled through Galilee. All four women had been healed by Jesus. According to Luke 8:2, seven demons had gone out of Mary. She must have been a strikingly independent woman, especially for her time. "Magdalene" may refer not to a home-town of Magdala but to her being a "woman of strength."
It is hard to know, though it is widely accepted, that Magdalene was a real historical figure. There are very few sources about her. A whole biography of Mary has been spun from nothing. She was allegedly a prostitute who came to Jesus to ask for or acknowledge his forgiveness, who knelt before him, washed his feet with her tears, dried them with her hair, and then anointed them with perfumed oil. This is another startlingly sensual scene. No wonder Jesus’ host was scandalised.

Once assured of Jesus’ forgiveness, she became his devoted follower and began to follow him about. This Mary then anointed Jesus’ feet with hugely expensive perfumed oil. This is another startlingly sensual scene. No wonder Jesus’ host was scandalised.

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By the 3rd century, the so-called Gnostics and their texts were suppressed and lost, before their discovery in Egypt in the 1940s.

In the so-called Gnostics of the 2nd and 3rd centuries, Mary was the recipient of Jesus’ deepest and most secret teaching. She was, according to these Gnostics, the first among the Apostles, and the leader of the Gnostic church. She was even said to have been the mother of Jesus’ child.

Mary Magdalene, so long lost from view, has become a heroine of insight and faith, and she appears in the greatest of these scenes — she is the paradigmatic sinner as a woman whose sin was sexual. In churches dominated all through the Middle Ages by celibate men, this was a particularly potent image. Mary Magdalene was a symbol of all Christians, men and women alike: sinful, penitent, forgiven, restored and finally to be blessed with the sight of Jesus himself. And so she remained in Christian teaching and imagination for over 1,000 years.

However, there were flaws in this story. The so-called Gnostics and their texts were suppressed and lost, before their discovery in Egypt in the 1940s.

Spiritual traditions that we too should end where we began, with the mystical poetry of the Garden of Eden to meet the Jesus who far transcends any Adam. The ‘new creation’ is complete. The light is rising in paradise.

Despite deep-rooted misogyny, a series of women has punctuated John’s story: Jesus’ mother at beginning and end, Mary and Martha right at the centre. Mary Magdalene is the last and appears in the greatest of these scenes — she is the leader of the Gnostic church. She was even said to have been the mother of Jesus’ child.

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For such Gnostics, Mary represented the human soul, always seen as feminine, yearning for union with her spiritual Lord. This was intense and intimate but as often as not involved, for those Gnostics who hated the squalour of the physical world, a sexual remembrance of any sensual contact on earth. The rediscovery of this privileged Magdalene, so long lost from view, has been an icon of religious women’s liberation in our own time from centuries of misogynistic patriarchy.

'Gnostics' Mary Magdalene was largely created out of John’s Easter story. Spiritual traditions that we too should end where we began, with the mystical poetry of that Easter scene. John’s whole gospel is a story of the new creation. In Genesis, God created life on the sixth day, the ‘completed’ creation. But Adam, the human being who brought to life this garden of Eden to be its gardener and to name all God’s other creatures, is Adam, is finally given Eve as his companion. According to John’s gospel, Jesus “completes” his work at Day Six (Good Friday). On Day One (Easter Sunday) of the next week, Jesus comes to the tomb before the light rises. She committed the human soul, always seen as feminine, yearning for union with her spiritual Lord. This was intense and intimate but as often as not involved, for those Gnostics who hated the squalour of the physical world, a sexual remembrance of any sensual contact on earth. The rediscovery of this privileged Magdalene, so long lost from view, has been an icon of religious women’s liberation in our own time from centuries of misogynistic patriarchy.

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THE DUTCH GOLDEN AGE

While the Hague was the seat of power in the young Dutch Republic, the Golden Age was Amsterdam’s time to shine. The city emerged as a major trading port, leading the Dutch East India Company to establish the world’s first stock exchange in Amsterdam in 1602. Shipbuilding and textiles also became booming industries. This attracted new immigrants, both from the rural provinces and abroad, many fleeing persecution and war, such as Huguenots, Jews and Flemings. The city’s population more than doubled between 1600 and 1650, going from 59,551 to 135,439. This led to the building of the city’s famous canals as the authorities launched a series of expansions and renovations to accommodate all of the new people.

WHERE TO STAY

Dos & don’ts

Practise your religion. The era is famed for its religious tolerance, with the Republic providing sanctuary for persecuted Jews and Anabaptists. However, Calvinists still dominated and public practice of Catholicism was illegal.

Build a windmill. The iconic Dutch windmill took off in the 17th century, with over 10,000 dotted across the Netherlands. The city walls of Amsterdam were even crowned with a row of them.

Try the herring. While ships bring back exotic colonial goods, the trading companies are built on North Sea herring. Readily available wherever you go, the seafood is an emblem of national pride.

Splurge on tulip bulbs. From 1633, ‘Tulip Mania’ saw bulbs for extraordinary sums of money sold for extraordinarly sums of money – the most expensive selling for the price of a well-appointed house. However, this spending frenzy couldn’t last and the market collapsed unexpectedly in 1637.

Cross the city watch. A voluntary militia guards the city gates, polices the streets and puts out fires. Companies are grouped by district and the weapon that they used – bow, crossbow or gun.

Dress ostentatiously. It’s a contradiction of the age that while the wealthy rich merchants enjoyed flashing their cash, out of religious devotion they always dressed humbly in black with broad hats and their wives wore bonnets.

Helpful skills

Shipbuilding

By the mid-17th century, the Dutch had more seagoing merchant vessels than England and France combined. To get ahead during this boom, make sure you build fluyts – long, relatively narrow ships beloved by merchants as they are designed to carry as much cargo as possible.

Banking

During the latter half of the 17th century wealthy merchants increasingly focused trading futures over foreign trade. If you’ve got a head for numbers, try making your fortune in financial services like insurance, currency exchange and trading stocks.

Sugarcraft

Thanks to imports from the colonies, Amsterdam is Europe’s largest sugar refinery. Learn to spin sugar and bake popular sweet treats including marzipan, hard candy and biscuits.

WHO TO BEFRIEND

Frans Hals

While Rembrandt van Rijn is the most famous artist of the Dutch Golden Age, we’d recommend seeking out another Old Master. Frans Hals was a generation older than Rembrandt although they died within three years of each other, and his pioneering use of loose, free brushwork opened the door for the younger artist. Hals could also offer a fresh perspective on the Dutch Republic. His family fled to Haarlem from the Spanish Netherlands when he was child and the painter served in the milits during the Dutch struggle for independence.

Extra tip: To meet Hals, you’ll have to go to him. With the exception of a brief trip to Antwerp, he lived and died in Haarlem and always insisted that his customers come to him.

WHO TO AVOID

Johan de Witt

As Grand Pensionary, Johan was the equivalent of the prime minister of the Dutch Republic for 20 years. Preceding over the peak of the Golden Age, he extended his country’s commercial supremacy to the East Indies. However, things did not end well for de Witt or those who associated with him. In 1672, the country was simultaneously attacked by English, French and German forces. Blaming de Witt, a frenzied crowd attacked him and his brother Cornelis. There are some accounts of the mob resorting to cannibalism, with claims of eyeballs being eaten and livers being roasted. In any event, the brothers’ mutilated bodies were strung up on a public gibbet.
Custer's last fight
Lieutenant Colonel George Armstrong Custer strikes a dashing, desperate figure at the centre of this dramatic depiction by artist Otto Becker of Custer's last stand. Broding the sabre, Custer is defeated during his final moments. Historically inaccurate in many ways, this image is perhaps the best-known interpretation of the event.

The winding river
The Little Bighorn River winds in the distance near the Indian encampment as Custer and his 7th US Cavalry detachment come to grief on a Montana hillside in June 1876. An apparent error in this image is the location of the fight, which actually occurred on the other side of the river.

Mounted warriors rush forward
As Custer and his troopers fight to the last in this famous painting, mounted Sioux, Cheyenne, and Arapaho warriors gallop towards the fray at Little Bighorn. Although the cavalrymen were significantly outnumbered, this painting offers the impression of literally thousands of Indians descending on a small band of them.

Firing his colt
A wounded trooper of the 7th Cavalry raises his Colt Model 1873 Single Action Army revolver for a point-blank shot at an attacking warrior. In addition to the bow and arrow, war club and lance, the Native American warriors at Little Bighorn were armed with more than 40 different types of firearms.

Taking a scalp
Murder of the enemy dead was a common practice among Great Plains tribal warriors who took scalps to achieve honour. While troopers were certainly scalped at Little Bighorn, claims that Custer was scalped or his body otherwise mutilated are unsubstantiated.

War club wielded
A Native American warrior wields his club to strike a death blow against a fallen trooper of the 7th Cavalry. The artist also took license in providing the 41-year-old lieutenant general with a club.

Arapaho warriors gallop towards the river. Mounted warriors of the Blackfeet, Brulé, Cheyenne, Arapaho, and Sioux tribes rode in a combined force of 750 warriors.

A wounded trooper of the 7th Cavalry raises his saber at the end of this short and intense battle. Historically inaccurate in many ways, this painting offers the impression of literally thousands of Indians descending on a small band of them.

BATTLE OF THE LITTLE BIGHORN
MONTANA TERRITORY, 25-26 JUNE 1876

As the United States expanded westwards, they increasingly clashed with the indigenous people who lived there. Native Americans were usually moved to reservations—pockets of remote land miles away from home. If they refused to move to a reservation willingly, they were ruthlessly attacked and purged from their ancestral lands by the American military.

Some believed resistance was futile. For instance, the great Sioux chief Red Cloud agreed to a treaty with the United States in April 1868, consenting to relocate his tribe northwards to a reservation in the Black Hills of the Dakota Territory. On the other hand, some Sioux factions—like the Lakota—refused to move, preferring to remain as a free, roaming and encroached on reservations promised to them and other tribes. Among these were the Cheyenne and Arapaho, who joined leaders such as Crazy Horse and Sitting Bull.

The discovery of gold in the Black Hills in 1874 quickened the pace of white settlement. The US Army was dispatched to the Montana Territory, under Lieutenant Colonel George A. Custer, was detached and ordered to follow Sitting Bull. Custer was offered the firepower of a Gatling gun detachment. He declined, saying the guns would slow him down. He was also offered extra cavalry but rejected them, stating that he was made up of less than 700 troopers—were capable of handling the mission. When a Lakota village was spotted along the banks of the Little Bighorn on 25 June, Custer divided his men into three groups. Fearing that the element of surprise would be lost, he impetuously ordered an immediate assault.

Major Marcus Reno made first contact with the enemy at about 3pm but a Native American force pushed Reno’s dismounted troopers to a hillside, where they were pinned down. Shortly after, Custer sent his five companies towards the other end of the village. Crazy Horse completed an envelopment of them and drove them northeast.

Captain Frederick Benteen joined Reno and fought off repeated assaults and their survivors retired after another day of fighting. Custer fought a running battle with his pursuers until his five companies were finally surrounded on high ground five miles from Reno’s position. Custer himself died and his company was annihilated.

Although they had prevailed at the Little Bighorn, the Sioux would find themselves overwhelmed and the Black Hills taken from them within a year.
The fateful decision to attack
On the morning of 25 June 1876, Custer is informed that a large Sioux village has been located in the valley of the Little Bighorn River, 24 kilometres from his command. Although he initially intends to attack the following day, he decides on an immediate attack when a subsequent report that some Native Americans have possibly observed his cavalry columns compromises the element of surprise.

Formidable enemy forces await
Custer's experienced Pawnee and Crow scouts report that the Native American village, which includes over 2,000 Cheyenne, Lakota Sioux and Arapaho warriors under Sitting Bull, Crazy Horse and other leaders, is the largest they have ever seen. Custer discounts these concerns, hoping to induce action before the alarm is raised and the villagers get away.

Ill-advised division of troopers
Unaware of his overwhelming strength, Custer divides his 12 cavalry companies, fewer than 700 troopers, into two brigades, about 210 troopers, in fact. This decision is based on his 50 soldiers strong, dismounted to protect the 7th Cavalry's regimental baggage train.

Reinforced but pinned down
Between 2 and 3pm, the ambushed troopers in better defensive positions along the slope of the hill, and the combined force holds its ground with determination. After hours of fighting, from the afternoon of 25 June until dusk the following day, the survivors of the two cavalry contingents manage to escape to safety.

Custer in dire straits
Although the ambushed troopers in better defensive positions along the slope of the hill, and the combined force holds its ground with determination. After hours of fighting, from the afternoon of 25 June until dusk the following day, the survivors of the two cavalry contingents manage to escape to safety.

The road to defeat
After hours of fighting, from the afternoon of 25 June until dusk the following day, the survivors of the two cavalry contingents manage to escape to safety.

Hard-pressed, Reno falls back
In the early afternoon, Major Marcus Reno leads his troopers and scouts across a small creek. With orders to proceed as quickly as he deems proper and attack, Reno opens the Battle of the Little Bighorn with an unannounced attack on the village from the south. Rather than retreating, the Native Americans have chosen to stand and fight. Although he has been promised the support of the whole outfit, Reno is immediately in trouble.

Benteen is summoned
Captain Benteen leads another column of 30 soldiers strong, is detailed to protect the 7th Cavalry's regimental baggage train. He sends a message, ordering his force towards the sounds of Reno's rifles.

Custer commits his column
With his heavily engaged, Custer attempts to cut off any retreat and engage the village, committing two brigades, about 250 troopers, to an assault on its opposite side. While Cheyenne and Sioux warriors emerge from the scrub toward a hillside. At times they remount their horses but this exposes them to additional fire from the Native Americans. Under steadily increasing pressure, Reno manages to hold his command together as casualties mount.

Outnumbered and confronted with withering fire, Reno's command is immediately in trouble. Despite their numbers and superior weaponry, the 7th Cavalry are pinned down by a combination of events.

The battle joined
At approximately 3pm, Major Marcus Reno leads his troopers and scouts across a small creek. With orders to proceed as quickly as he deems proper and attack, Reno opens the Battle of the Little Bighorn with an unannounced attack on the village from the south. Rather than retreating, the Native Americans have chosen to stand and fight. Although he has been promised the support of the whole outfit, Reno is immediately in trouble.

Assailed from multiple directions, Custer's command is immediately in trouble. Despite their numbers and superior weaponry, the 7th Cavalry are pinned down by a combination of events.

The road to defeat
After hours of fighting, from the afternoon of 25 June until dusk the following day, the survivors of the two cavalry contingents manage to escape to safety.

Greener is summoned
Greener is summoned to meet this second threat, Crazy Horse leads a war party a short distance downstream along the Little Bighorn and then doubles back to attack Custer. The result is a classic envelopment of Custer's command.
From the notorious serial killers of the Age of Aquarius to the ruthless mob bosses of the Jazz Age and beyond, Real Crime is the first high-quality true crime magazine on the newsstand. Every issue of Real Crime reveals the untold stories behind the world’s most gripping cases, the breathtaking experiences of investigators and survivors, and blow-by-blow accounts of how lawbreakers were finally brought to justice.

**Mock Turtle Soup**

**Ingredients**

- 1 large calf’s head
- Oysters
- 2 eggs
- 2 carrots
- 2 lemons
- 1 large onion
- 1tsp Cayenne pepper
- Oysters
- Parsley
- Thyme
- 1 lemon
- 1.2 litres Madeira wine
- 8 tbsp lemon juice
- 1 large calf’s head
- 8 tbsp lemon juice
- 1.2 litres Madeira wine
- 8 tbsp lemon juice
- 1 large onion
- 1tsp Cayenne pepper
- Oysters
- Parsley
- Thyme
- 1 lemon
- 1.2 litres Madeira wine
- 8 tbsp lemon juice
- 1 large onion
- 1tsp Cayenne pepper
- Oysters
- Parsley
- Thyme
- 1 lemon
- 1.2 litres Madeira wine
- 8 tbsp lemon juice

**Method**

1. Depending on how good a butcher you have, you might have to prepare the calf’s head yourself. To do this, dispose of the hair, eyes and tongue before cracking the head and carefully removing the brains. Place the brains to soak in the fridge overnight in salt water.
2. The next day, slice the calf’s head into thin strips and soak them in cold salted water for an hour. Depending on how good a butcher you have, you might have to prepare the calf’s head yourself. To do this, dispose of the hair, eyes and tongue before cracking the head and carefully removing the brains. Place the brains to soak in the fridge overnight in salt water.
3. Having been thoroughly soaked, the membrane around the brain should have toughened. Done correctly, it should peel off without breaking to reveal a white meat underneath. Having been thoroughly soaked, the membrane around the brain should have toughened. Done correctly, it should peel off without breaking to reveal a white meat underneath.
4. Once your version is done, place the brains on a plate, removing the eyes, ears and tongue. Once your version is done, place the brains on a plate, removing the eyes, ears and tongue.
5. When the head has soaked, drain it and add the meat, vegetables and lemon that you’ve just prepared along with the gravy — lamb gravy and herbs, somewhat similar to stuffing. When the head has soaked, drain it and add the meat, vegetables and lemon that you’ve just prepared along with the gravy — lamb gravy and herbs, somewhat similar to stuffing.
6. Traditionally, the soup would be served in the shell of a green turtle, which would be line with a flour and water paste and heated in the oven. Traditionally, the soup would be served in the shell of a green turtle, which would be line with a flour and water paste and heated in the oven.
7. As if beef, brains, veal and oysters weren’t enough, it’s now time to cook the forcemeat — a blend of chicken, pork or even fish with grains and herbs, somewhat similar to stuffing. As if beef, brains, veal and oysters weren’t enough, it’s now time to cook the forcemeat — a blend of chicken, pork or even fish with grains and herbs, somewhat similar to stuffing.
8. Stir in the wine, lemon juice and a sprinkle of salt. Stir in the wine, lemon juice and a sprinkle of salt.
9. Skim any scum that rises to the surface of the water, then cover with a lid and simmer everything until the meat becomes nice and tender. Skim any scum that rises to the surface of the water, then cover with a lid and simmer everything until the meat becomes nice and tender.
10. If you can’t get mutton, stir in the wine, lemon juice and a sprinkle of salt. If you can’t get mutton, stir in the wine, lemon juice and a sprinkle of salt.
11. Traditionally, the soup would be served in the shell of a green turtle, which would be line with a flour and water paste and heated in the oven. Traditionally, the soup would be served in the shell of a green turtle, which would be line with a flour and water paste and heated in the oven.
12. As if beef, brains, veal and oysters weren’t enough, it’s now time to cook the forcemeat — a blend of chicken, pork or even fish with grains and herbs, somewhat similar to stuffing. As if beef, brains, veal and oysters weren’t enough, it’s now time to cook the forcemeat — a blend of chicken, pork or even fish with grains and herbs, somewhat similar to stuffing.
13. However, part of the allure of the dish was that different cuts of the animal supposedly tasted like veal, beef, fish, ham and pork. So chefs would try a mix of ingredients to try and replicate the varied taste on a budget, throwing in oysters, ham and even fried brains. This recipe is based on one from Hannah Glasse’s 1758 The Art of Cookery made Plain and Easy.
14. Before serving, boil two eggs. When they’re ready, scoop out the yolks and use them to garnish the dish along with the forcemeat and a sprig of parsley. Before serving, boil two eggs. When they’re ready, scoop out the yolks and use them to garnish the dish along with the forcemeat and a sprig of parsley.
15. Did you make it? Let us know! Did you make it? Let us know!
The inside story on the imperial funerary statues that came to captivate the globe

**Author** Edward Burman  
**Publisher** Weidenfeld & Nicolson  
**Price** £25 Released Out now

Terracotta Warriors

There are only a few comparable to Edward Carter’s discovery of Tutankhamun’s tomb in 1922. With a much-anticipated exhibition opening the warriors now open at Liverpool’s World Museum, author Edward Burman has published his take on their mysterious story.

The first work for the general reader to assimilate the most recent analysis, the book aims to engage its audience in this remarkable chapter of China’s history in just 230 pages, and succeeds it does.

Terracotta Warriors is divided into three parts corresponding to its title: history, mystery, and latest discoveries. The first is a fascinating journey documenting the rise of the Qin dynasty, who in generations transcended their origins as a varia state to rule all of China. The reign of Qin Shi Huang as the first emperor was short but will be remembered in perpetuity thanks to his creations. The book really goes as we delve into the mystery of why and how the warriors were created as part of the emperor’s grand mausoleum complex, based on spurious images. They were discovered by chance by farmers in 1974 and we now know that there are more than 8,000 soldiers, 130 chariots with 520 horses and 500 cavalry horses in the Terracotta Army, alongside other figures including an entire army of artists, musicians, and servants.

Yet despite this knowledge, much of the warriors’ existence is still an enigma. Could the influence of Greek thought and art in nearby regions have inspired these life-sized figures, unprecedented in China? And was their purpose really to defend their immortality-seeking emperor in the afterlife, or was the intent for successors to use them in rituals and ceremonies? Whatever the truth, this is an absorbing content, providing a compelling insight into ancient Chinese culture. Burman not only explores how the Qin ancestors paved the way for Qin Shi Huang, but also in terms of his humankind — including acrobats and musicians. Whatever the truth, this is absorbed content, providing a compelling insight into ancient Chinese culture. Burman not only explores how the Qin ancestors paved the way for Qin Shi Huang — both in terms of his empire and his mausoleum — but also in terms of how the world and interacted with it.

The tales and theories are perfectly complemented by archaeological evidence, with the book rounded off by discussions on the latest research and what else archaeologists yearn to discover in the coming years. Readers new to the history of China will welcome its accessible language, while more seasoned scholars will find new insights to feed their passion.

“Yet despite this knowledge, much of the warriors’ existence is still an enigma.”

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For an archaeologist like Morris, places are deeply personal.

**Author** Richard Morris  
**Publisher** Weidenfeld & Nicolson  
**Price** £25 Released Out now

Yorkshire

A leisurely stroll through Viking’s, Civil War and Industrial Revolution

With his background in archaeology, Richard Morris is in his element when he talks about places rather than people. He engages an epic tale from the geopolitical shifts of continents and coastal erosion, the submerged secrets of buried mounds and Roman sewers, and the scars left by centuries of earthworks and long gone collieries. Furthermore, Morris scores a great case for the significance of Yorkshire as one of the many regions where a certain amount of British — and even world — history proteins.

This is also a very personal journey and one that the archaeologist Morris, places are deeply personal. His unique perspective and decades of experience in the field bring to life the cool stones of the iconic Whitby Abbey, the crumbling cliffs of Holderness and the windswept moors that inspired the Brontés. But then the personal also means people, whether Yorkshire’s cultural touchstones like writer Amy Johnson, poet Ted Hughes or novelist J.B Priestley.

Morris’ own extended family history; or lesser-known stories of quiet innovation and revolutionaries who have been largely forgotten outside of their blue plaques on Georgian brickwork. It’s there where Yorkshire, its Lyric History of England’s Greatest County seems to step its better, bolder (translation go on and off) and left infrastructure; none around, and ultimately leave feeling somewhat sad with little more than for comparison.

There’s plenty to enjoy and plenty to send you scurrying off for further reading but little sense of purpose or momentum in itself. Some of the tangents read especially tensuous as Morris labours to connect locations he remembers from his childhood to the improvement of World War I. Conscious observers and tales of family members overseas to wider patterns of migration. It’s as lyrical as promised, but in a single history, Morris falls short.

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Retroporative

This coffee table collection brings history back to life

**Editor** Michael D Carroll  
**Publisher** Carpet Bombing Culture  
**Price** £19.95 Released Out now

The sailor and nurse kissing in Times Square on V-J Day. The Wright brothers first flight. Marilyn Monroe posing as a breeze blows her dress upwards. There are countless photos that have shaped our understanding of events but Retroporative: History’s Most Exciting Images Transformed is a book that brings a new light on them, which may make you rethink what you know.

Featuring iconic shots that have been painstakingly colourised using digital techniques, we were pleasantly surprised to discover a group of Victorian gentlemen draped in gaudy clothing that we might have assumed were a sombre black. It also gave us a new appreciation for Rapstein’s alleged animal magnetism to discover his hypnotic gaze was painted that. However, it was the war photography that really moved us with battle scenes from the American Civil War to World War II, giving a new sense of urgency by stripping away the monotone filter. The book is by no means arranged in a broad themes but it’s better to just flick through. Each shot comes with a detailed description providing background on both the history and the photographers. The collection also deserves credit for colourising lesser-known shots of historically marginalized groups such as the urban poor and Native Americans that might otherwise be overlooked.

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The fight for freedom with the 50th anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr’s ‘I Have a Dream’ speech

The fight for freedom with the 50th anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr’s ‘I Have a Dream’ speech

The powerful words spoken on August 28, 1963, are still relevant today. With the ongoing struggle against racism and inequality, and the current events of 2020, King’s dream — a place where “all men are created equal” — has not yet fully come to be. The speech is a Call to action for all people to work together to achieve justice and equality for all.

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Reviews
SECRET PIGEON SERVICE
How pigeon fanciers earned their wings during WWII
Author Gordon Corser
Publisher William Collins Price £20 Released Out now

Between 1941 and 1944, a total of 65,544 plucky homing pigeons were dropped in an air raid on Bordeaux to Copenhagen. These were part of Operation Colombo, a secret British mission to bring back intelligence from those living under Nazi occupation. The message-packed birds, written on tiny pieces of rice paper stuck among corn and tied to the legs of the birds. Many of the messages that came back contained vital intelligence detailing German troop movements and even Nazi air weapon designs.

Secret Pigeon Service describes the Leopold Vindictive network, a small group of Belgian villagers who took huge risks. Led by an extra-ordinary priest, their intelligence was so valuable it was shown to Churchill, leading MI9 to parachute agents into to assist him. Co-worker brought together both the regular Belgian sides of the Secret Pigeon Service, following the spymasters that get the special wartime operation off the ground and interrogated both sides of Leopold Vindictive's messages. However, the author doesn't shy away from the fact that bitter rivals in London placed the lives of secret agents at risk.

Despite its title, this book is less about birds and more about remarkable people who, faced with the choice of saving their own lives or saving the country, chose the latter. They were just ordinary people living in occupied territories.

THE DEATH OF STALIN
Less Carry on up the Kremlin than it is Brazil with Bolsheviks
Certificate 15 Director Armando Iannucci Cast Steve Buscemi, Jason Isaacs, Jeffery Tambor, Michael Palin, Simon Russell Beale, Andrea Riseborough Released Out now

Armando Iannucci has a gift for lacerating political satire, creating Westminster send-up The Thick of It before hopping over the Pond to take down the White House with Veep. He is able to find the humour in the bumbling errors of incompetent authority figures as well as tear them down with some bombastically foul-mouthed insults. However, until now the stakes his characters have had to face were no higher than losing face or, at worst, an election. In his latest feature film, The Death of Stalin, matters are just as likely to be met with a bullet to the head as they are stinging barbs.

Set in 1953, in the paranoid world of totalitarian Russia, Khrushchev formally disbands the politburo, which terrorised the seas to amass great wealth. Discover the mariners that made The Thick of It and Veep required watching.

The horrors of Stalin’s regime, as brutal as it was bureaucratic, form the backdrop to all its harrowing endgame. For the most part, Iannucci successfully walks this tricky tightrope so that it never feels like one of the darkest periods of modern history is being treated as slapstick buffoonery. However, until now the stakes his characters have had to face were no higher than losing face or, at worst, an election. In his latest feature film, The Death of Stalin, matters are just as likely to be met with a bullet to the head as they are stinging barbs.

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Hacksaw Ridge

Fact versus fiction on the silver screen

What liberties did Hollywood take with the surprising story of a pacifist medic serving in Japan?

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**VERDICT**

Despite the scenery, Hacksaw Ridge is set in a film version of Japan. Doss was, in reality, a combat medic in the United States Army and the only conscientious objector to receive a Medal of Honor during World War II. He saved 75 men during the Battle of Okinawa in 1945. In the film, Doss meets Dorothy, his future wife, at the hospital where she works as a nurse before World War II. However, this is inaccurate as Dorothy didn't actually become a nurse until after the war and the couple originally met in church. The film portrays Doss as a pacifist, refusing to use a gun as he didn't want to take a human life. He was called a coward by his fellow soldiers, who frequently insulted and made fun of him. Having said that, the main bully in the movie, Smitty, is a fictional character. The Americans did use cargo nets to help them climb Hacksaw Ridge, and Doss was one of the men to hang them, although this isn't shown in the film. The on-screen ridge was also a lot taller than the real-life Maeda Escarpment they had to climb.

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**01** Hacksaw Ridge is based on the true story of Desmond Doss, a combat medic in the United States Army and the only conscientious objector to receive a Medal of Honor during World War II. He saved 75 men during the Battle of Okinawa in 1945.

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**02** In the film, Doss meets Dorothy, his future wife, at the hospital where she works as a nurse before World War II. However, this is inaccurate as Dorothy didn't actually become a nurse until after the war and the couple originally met in church.

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**03** In reality, Doss did refuse to use a gun as he didn't want to take a human life. He was called a coward by his fellow soldiers, who frequently insulted and made fun of him. Having said that, the main bully in the movie, Smitty, is a fictional character.

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**04** The Americans did use cargo nets to help them climb Hacksaw Ridge, and Doss was one of the men to hang them, although this isn't shown in the film. The on-screen ridge was also a lot taller than the real-life Maeda Escarpment they had to climb.

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**05** The final assault at the ridge is delayed so that Doss could read his Bible, as depicted in the film. This is because the assault took place on a Saturday, the day of Sabbath, which is sacred to Seventh-day Adventists like Doss as they usually refrain from secular work.
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