

THE CIVIL WAR **LECTURE SERIES**



Venue: The Wych Centre, Civic Way, Middlewich. CW10 9BX

Presented by Middlewich Town Council in association with the Battlefields Trust

12 September 2015



The Civil War in Cheshire and Middlewich's Role

Professor Malcolm Wanklyn, one of the country's leading academic historians on the military aspects of the Civil War, will talk about the importance of Cheshire to both Crown and Parliament during the Civil War and examine the course of the war in the county. He will discuss the two battles that were fought around Middlewich, with emphasis on the first action fought in March 1643.

Professor Wanklyn is Emeritus Professor at the University of Wolverhampton. He has published a number of books on the Civil War, including *A Military History of the English Civil War* with Frank Jones (2005), *Decisive Battles of the English Civil War* (2006) and *Warrior Generals* (2010) about the leading commanders.

3 October 2015



The Battle of Rowton Heath (1645)

The acknowledged expert on the Civil War and Chester, Bob Burgess will discuss the decisive but little known battle at Rowton Heath in September 1645 in the context of the great siege of Chester. Discover why the royalist cause was dealt a fatal blow in the action, where the King watched the defeat of his army from the walls of Chester and how a forgotten hero could have won the battle for the royalists.

Bob studied history at the University of Leeds under the eminent 17th century historian Austin Woolrych. He is a long serving member of the Sealed Knot re-enactment society, having served as the commanding officer of the parliamentarian cavalry. He therefore has a practical as well as academic interest in the English Civil War.

Each talk will start at 2.30pm, doors open at 2pm. Ticket Prices are £7.50, £25 discounted price for booking all four talks, refreshments included. (All proceeds go towards the cost of a 'battlefield marker' or Interpretation Board marking the spot where so many people died during the Civil War).

Tickets are available from Middlewich Town Council, Town Hall, Victoria Building, Lewin Street, Middlewich CW10 9AS. Telephone: 01606 833434. Email heritage@middlewich.org.uk for more information.

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14 November 2015

The Battle of Nantwich (1644)



Battlefield Trust Development Officer and English Heritage Battlefield Guide, Julian Humphrys talks about the battle of Nantwich where royalist's reinforcements from Ireland were prevented from making a significant contribution to the royal cause by their defeat in a closely fought engagement in January 1644.

Julian worked for 14 years for the National Army Museum before becoming a freelance historian and writer. He has written for BBC History and History Revealed magazine, leads English Heritage's Battlefield Hikes and has, since 2009 been the Development Officer for the Battlefields Trust.

5 December 2015 - the Battle of Winwick (1648)

Local Historian Richard Ward discusses the little know action which followed the defeat of the Anglo-Scottish royalist army at Preston during the second civil war in 1648. Richard will explain the dramatic story of how the Scots tried to escape Oliver Cromwell's pursuing horsemen, but had to turn and fight a desperate battle just north of Winwick.

Richard has studied the battle for many years and acts as the Battlefields Trust representative there. He leads the Trust's annual walk and is developing a project to better commemorate and interpret the fighting that took place there.



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