

# The Quickfirer!



Bringing alive the dry pages of history

## Tank pulled from Lake— 60 yrs on



Some years ago, but only recently seen by us, was this remarkable story of a Russian T-34 tank (in German Colours) that was pulled intact from a Lake in Estonia . Local historians

and old residents worked on the project and the astounding result is worth seeing. Amazingly, after a quick repair the Diesel engine spluttered to life! See more of the story at [www.englishrussia.com/?p=299](http://www.englishrussia.com/?p=299)

## This month in History – February

**On Land** – “Destruction of a Monastery.” In what is thought to be the greatest single onslaught on a single building ever, 200 Allied bombers including 140 Flying Fortresses dropped 400 tons of bombs on the 1,400 year old Benedictine Monastery at Cassino in Italy on 15th February 1944. Watched by large amounts of press, the destruction was complete and over 100 people were killed, not one was a German soldier. The position finally fell in May 1944.

**VC— Private Albert Curtis.** Albert was in the East Surrey Regiment in South Africa during the Boer war when under fire at close range from well protected Boers he rescued his injured Colonel, in February 1900. Albert survived the war and became a Yeoman warder in 1910. He died aged 74 in 1940.



## The following units wear this honour with pride

**Cleve (Rhineland)** February 1945– Wiltshire regiment, Scots Guards, Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry, 4/7th Dragoon Guards, Gordon Highlanders, Kings Royal Rifle Corps, Somerset Light Infantry, The Royal Scots, The Queens Westminsters, Coldstream Guards.

## Issue 14 February 2007

**Obituary** - It is with regret that we should pass on the sad news of the death of Historian, author and guide David Rat-tray. Born in Johannesburg, David was a renown figure and authority on the Zulu Wars and lived close to Rorkes drift. He was murdered last week by a masked gang in what appears to be a reprisal over land rights. At only 46, he will be sadly missed by all in the History community.

## Some of our 2007 Tours

### Walking Gallipoli £815

Walking the Beach heads, inland fighting, Suvla Bay & Anzac 29th April-4th May

### Arras 90th Anniversary £345

Several walks and ceremonies at Gavrelle, Vimy and Bullecourt. 9th-11th April

### Somme Summer Strolls

£375 –Focus on the opening of the Summer Somme offensive. 13th-17th May

### High Altitude—Italy Based

in Asiago we walk the Alpine battlefields of 1917. 26th July—6th August £975

Please see our website or brochure for other tours.



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