



FRIDAY

FRIDAY HQ



10:30-11:00

WELCOME EVENT

Al Murray & James Holland

It's back! We're back! You're back! We Have Ways Festival Mk vi - dare we say the biggest and best yet - the world's greatest gathering of war wafflers in on. The Afflicted, the Independent Company, those fully radicalised and speaking in the Arsenal, and every single First Timer, Virgin, Greenhorn, Newbie or Replacement - welcome one and all for the highlight of the year. Al and Jim are as excited as you are and looking forward to spending the weekend with one and all.

11:00-12:00

THE PACIFIC WAR AT SEA

Al Murray, Marc Milner & Stephen Prince

The war in the Pacific was a naval war on a scale never seen before or since - the distances covered and the fleets sustained by all combatants are boggling in their scale. Marc Milner and Steve Prince discuss the titanic (pun used advisedly) struggle for mastery of the seas at the ends of the earth.

12:30-13:30

CONTRASTING VIEWS OF THE AIR WAR

James Holland & Jon Parshall

Join Jim and Jon as they take contrasting views of the Air War - as Jon takes on the mantle of proving to his fellow Americans the supreme sacrifices of RAF Bomber Command and undoubtedly, a prime opportunity for Jim to rant about the serial failings of everyone's worst aerial commander, Trafford Leigh-Mallory...

15:00-16:00

EVERYTHING NUREMBERG GOT WRONG

Alex Richie & Waitman Beorn

The star studded movie "Nuremberg" brought the story of the post-war trials to the cinema, but like every WW2 movie before and since it got plenty wrong. While Russell Crowe's film-stealing turn as Hermann Goering might have gripped Al - who was sat next to Penny Mordaunt RN at the premiere - Alex and Waitman take on the not unhappy task of scrutinising the moral blockbuster

16:30-17:30

BEYOND STRINGBAGS: AIRCRAFT OF THE FLEET AIR ARM

Joe Coles

Even the most casual listener knows that Al and Jim fell madly in love with the Fleet Air Arm and the aerial jewel in its crown the Fairey Swordfish this last year (did they mention they've been up in one? I can't be sure). Festival favourite and Hushkit superstar Joe Coles will be looking at these magnificent men in their (carrier launched) flying machines and seeing what else the Senior Service brought to the party.

FRIDAY HQ

19:00-20:00

THE JOY OF AIRFIX

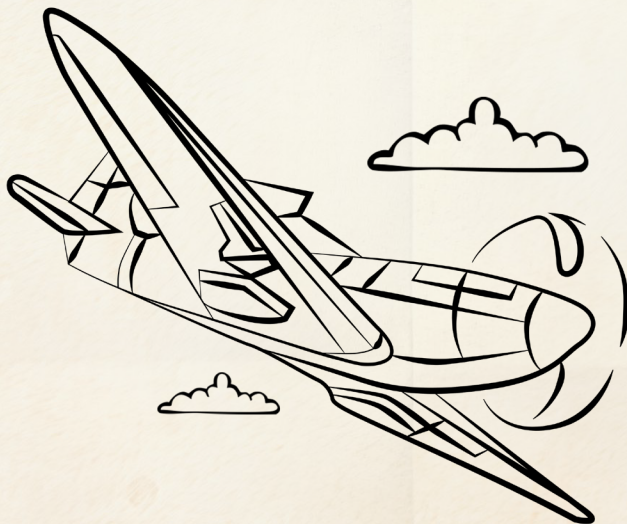
Because life is better in 1/72 scale - festival regular, pub owner and gin maker James May talks to erstwhile publican and gin drinker Al Murray about their mutual love for scale modelling, and above all the primus inter pares AIRFIX. The box art, the smeared canopies, the split decals - it's all here and in perfect detail.

21:00-22:30

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE: SUPER GEHERN

Al Murray, James Holland & Special Guests

Join quiz masters Jim and Al as they grill historians on their specialist subjects and general knowledge - which isn't just knowledge about generals. The aim? Victory? The prize? Glory. At stake? Humiliation.



FRIDAY BRIEFING



11:00-12:00

THE WOMEN WHO FLEW FOR HITLER: HANNAH REITSCH AND MELITTA VON STAUFFENBERG

Clare Mulley

For WHW regulars, Clare Mulley needs no introduction and is a firm favourite on the roster! For our newcomers, Clare is an award-winning author and public historian focused primarily on female experience during the SWW. The Women Who Flew For Hitler is a gripping dual biography of Nazi Germany's only female test pilots, the fanatical Nazi Hanna Reitsch and secret resister Melitta von Stauffenberg. These contrasting lives makes for an enthralling study of the women at the heart of the Nazi regime, and at a time when fewer women were able to fly.

12:30-13:30

WHEN THE BRITISH BETRAYED THE FRENCH: MERS EL KEBIR

Al Murray & Edward Abel-Smith

One of the most dramatic episodes of 1940, the pride and reputation of two Navies on the line, old friends eyeball to eyeball trying to find a solution.... Mers el Kebir is a single day of the Second World War that burns forever in notoriety. Ed Abel Smith, whose fantastic book A Hateful Decision was published this year talks to Al about what rotters the Royal Navy were and what fools the French Navy possessed.

15:00-16:00

GOODWOOD & COBRA: DECEPTION, DELAY & THE BIG LIE

Marc Milner

Operations Goodwood and Cobra were General Montgomery's long awaited one-two punch designed to break the Allies out the Normandy beachhead. The Anglo-Canadians would attack on 17 July south of Caen, and the next day the Americans would breakout west of St Lo. But the Americans were not ready and asked for a delay. Goodwood launched on 18 July, but for the next few days the Americans were still unprepared to move. Then the rains came and stalled Cobra until 25 July. When the Americans finally broke through on 26 July it seemed like they had done it all by themselves, in fact General Bradley claimed as much. However, the reality of this critical moment in the Normandy campaign was very different from what the accepted narrative tells us.

16:30-17:30

1942: THE CRUX OF WAR: THE MOST DECISIVE MOMENTS OF 1942

James Holland & Jon Parshall

1942 - the year that begins with collapse, disaster and defeat for the Allies, in the Pacific, Malaya, Singapore, Burma, North Africa, Malta and the Russian front is the year of the epic plot twist, as Allied efforts to stem the tide swing into effect. James takes the global view of defeat into victory with Jon Parshall.

19:00-20:00

MACARTHUR & EICHELBERGER

John McManus & Jon Parshall

Two of America's top historians join forces for a singular purpose: bashing 'Dugout Doug' MacArthur. John McManus and Jon Parshall get to grips with what you could call the much sung and the unsung: when MacArthur got all the medals, it was Bob Eichelberger doing all the hard yards. What manner of army was the US Army when it could call on this breadth of talent?

FRIDAY ARSENAL



11:00-11:30

LIFE AND DEATH IN THE ATLANTIC WALL

Kate Brett

Kate Brett studied English, German and Museology at university, and has found a happy home at the Naval Historical Branch, where she persuades the current Royal Navy to produce operational reporting and studies the Second World War from all sides of the conflict, drawing on little-known foreign documents. For us, Kate is drawing back the curtain on German Navy coastal defences, using a specific case study - namely the Battery at Cézembre off Brittany - which eventually surrendered for reasons not understood by the Allies at the time. It's a fascinating story in microcosm!

12:00-12:30

SPITFIRES OF THE SEA

Stephen Fisher & Will Iredale

This is quite the small boat double team! Known as an expert on Operation Neptune, Stephen's book *Sword Beach* was the first to explore this often forgotten part of the D-Day landings and challenged some of the oft-repeated myths about the fighting there. He also wrote a book about the smaller - but no less significant - MGB 81, a 1942 motor gun boat that still sails today. Will's first two books - *The Kamikaze Hunters* and *The Pathfinders* - were both Sunday Times top ten bestsellers. His latest book, *Churchill's Pirates*, tells the extraordinary and true story of the Royal Naval Patrol Service - the 70,000-strong force of fishermen, amateur volunteers and land-lubbers who manned over 6,000 small boats in every theatre of the Second World War, to help the Allies to victory. Between them, expect a fascinating talk about the role of small boats in bringing the fight to the enemy at sea.

13:00-13:30

WRONG WAR: PARAS IN AFGHANISTAN

Stuart Tootal

Stuart Tootal commanded 3 PARA in Afghanistan, the first UK battle group to deploy to Helmand Province. Billed as a peace support operation, the level of combat 3 PARA participated in was the most intense the British Army had experienced since the Korean War. 3 PARA's story was captured in his book *'Danger Close - Leading 3 PARA in Afghanistan'*, which became a Sunday Times best seller. Since then, Stuart has published 5 books. His fourth book (*SAS Sea King Down*) also entered the best seller Sunday Times list. Stuart's talk - despite not being primarily about the Second World War - is sure to be an insightful look at airborne forces and their deployment no matter the decade.

14:00-14:30

HOW TO SINK A SUBMARINE

Holland "Hop" Chalfont

Hop spent 12 years as a Naval Aviator in the US Navy. While in the cockpit as a P-3 Patrol Plane Commander he hunted scores of real world targets throughout the Atlantic, Mediterranean, Caribbean and Pacific when the Cold War was at a fever pitch and the Soviets would "come out and play". Join Hop as he takes his real world experiences to give us an outline of the basic procedures and principles of the dark art of hunting U Boats. His brief will discuss weapons, tactics and the effects of Boffins on the arms race as the U boats went from the hunters - to the hunted.

15:00-15:30

STRINGBAGS OVER SAND

Aedan Butler

Aedan is a firm favourite of festival goers and WHW listeners, lending his Naval Historical Branch expertise for Jim and Al's newfound nautical zest! This year, he is following the venerable Swordfish (and perhaps an Albacore or two) to the sands of North Africa and the Middle East. From anti-submarine patrols in the dead of night to bombing columns of Panzers and more, it is yet another incredible tale of derring-do from the Fleet Air Arm that should join the pantheon of Bismarck and Taranto.

16:00-16:30

GOATS, GUNS AND MOTORCYCLES: THE SURPRISE ARRIVAL OF THE EXILED ALLIES IN THE SUMMER OF 1940

Jennifer Grant

The summer of 1940 is best known in the UK for Dunkirk, the Fall of France and the prospect of a German invasion of the UK. Less attention has been given to the arrival of thousands of troops from occupied Allied countries, including the Poles, French and Belgians. Faced with the prospect of German invasion, Churchill and the Service Chiefs were also now faced with the practical challenges of accommodating and clothing the foreign troops - and just how to provide quarantine to the goat mascot rescued by a Polish regiment... Join Jenny Grant, Postgraduate Researcher at Queen Mary University of London, to find out more.

17:00-17:30

SWIMMING THE GROUND: DIVING THE WRECKS OF BIKINI ATOLL & THE USA BOMB TESTS

Matthew Tresidder

In 2024, WHW stalwart Matthew Tresidder had the chance to dive the Nuclear "Ghost" Fleet of Bikini Atoll: the ships used as targets for the first A Bomb Tests after WW2. The ships included veritable warhorses from the US, Germany and Japan as well as several destroyers and submarines. Discover a brief history of three key ships: the Prinz Eugen, the aircraft carrier USS Saratoga and the battleship IJN Nagato. Using first hand accounts and images - how did they come to be at Bikini Atoll and what remains now?

18:00-18:30

SOS: HOSPITAL SHIPS AT WAR

Jessica Strazzella

Jessica is an adjunct history professor for Southside Virginia Community College for its Campus Within Walls Program teaching World History to incarcerated people, and she is also a museum tech for the Naval History and Heritage Command. Today, join her as she looks at the vital role played by hospital ships when land-based medical care was thousands of miles away. Admiral Halsey implemented the strategic use of hospital ships in the Pacific, known as Scoop and Sail. Converted LST hulls enabled hospital ships to approach beachheads and transport stretchers to the ship. It also placed these hospital ships in battle groups, enabling the rapid transfer of wounded personnel. Discover how the use of hospital ships changed the care of the wounded, not only in the Pacific during WWII but also in subsequent military conflicts, particularly in Korea.

19:00-19:30

CATWALK RUNWAY: WARTIME FASHION

Julie Summers

Julie Summers is the best-selling author of fifteen works of non-fiction. Her best-selling book Jambusters inspired the ITV drama series Home Fires, which ran for two seasons in 2015-16 and had a regular television audience of over six million. She has focused on women's stories from the Second World War and has most notably written Fashion on the Ration, and Dressed for War, the biography of Vogue's wartime editor, Audrey Withers. Julie describes herself as an historian but primarily a storyteller, so this talk is bound to impress!

FRIDAY ENSA



12:00-12:30

TANK COMMAND

Hamish de Bretton-Gordon & Waitman Beorn

Over a century ago armoured warfare mobilised men, firepower and the battlefield in a way that came to shattering maturity during the Second World War. Tanks demand our attention, and to understand them properly nothing speaks like experience. Waitman and Hamish talk turret time and the evolution of these bowel loosening battlefield behemoths.

14:00-14:30

BOMBSHELL RHEANNE

16:00-16:30

BOMBSHELL RHEANNE

19:00-19:30

IN CONVERSATION WITH...

Drachinifel & Lord HardThrasher

Join hit Youtubers Drachinifel and Lord HardThrasher as they discuss what it takes to create WW2 content.

22:30-23:00

ACHTUNG BABIES

23:00-23:30

DEAD MAN'S JUKEBOX

The image features a vibrant red diagonal band that cuts across the frame from the top-left towards the bottom-right. The background is a light, textured surface, possibly paper or fabric, with a subtle grid pattern and some natural-looking stains or foxing. The word "SATURDAY" is printed in a bold, white, serif font, centered within the red band.

SATURDAY

SATURDAY HQ



09:00-10:00

THE ROYAL NAVY: WINNING WW2

Brian Lavery & Stephen Prince

"He who commands the sea commands the trade routes of the world" said Sir Walter Raleigh in between inventing chips and smoking. The Royal Navy was the instrument of British Imperial power and prestige between the wars, when war came it was to shoulder the burden of global power alongside its Allies. But who were the men that ruled the waves? And how did the Royal Navy care for and curate its personnel? Steve Prince and Brian Lavery look at life on the ocean waves.

10:30-11:30

WW2 LIVE: BASTOGNE!

John McManus & Kevin Hymel

The hosts of WW2 Live bring their pod across the pond to talk all things Battle of The Bulge! McAuliffe's 'Nuts!' has nothing on this. Join John McManus and Kevin Hymel as they tell you everything you need to know - and then some - about the fierce fighting around Bastogne during the last winter of the Second World War.

13:00-14:00

CLASH OF THE TITANS: HOOD VS BISMARCK

Al Murray, Chris Gatenby, Drachinifel, James Holland & Rowland White

The Greatest Battleships on Earth in an epic showdown. James choking back manly tears at the loss of the Hood. Chris explaining which is port and which is starboard and why. Roland working out how from a Swordfish you might mistake Sheffield for the Bismarck. Drachinifel peering into the radar screen. Al gleeful ringmaster: what's not to like?

14:30-15:30

COMPANY OF HEROES: WRITING BAND OF BROTHERS

Ben Willbond & John Orloff

The 25th anniversary of the release of the seminal series 'Band of Brothers' is upon us, and who better than the writer and friend of the show John Orloff to tell you everything you needed to know about its creation? Ably interviewed by The Captain, of course.

16:00-17:30

BAND OF BROTHERS 25 YEARS ON

James Holland & Alex Sabga-Brady

In the previous slot we asked who could be better than the writer to regale us with tales of Band of Brothers, 25 years on. Well, what about one of the cast? Join Alumnus Alex Sabga-Brady as he regales us with his memories of working on the show, as well as talking about his new documentary.

18:00-19:00

FAMILY STORIES

Al Murray & Special Guests

Family Stories has long been a core feature of the We Have Ways world - people's lives caught up in the greatest conflict of all time, individual experience joining the dots and colouring in the picture of the war. Listeners join us to share their Family Stories once again.

SATURDAY HQ

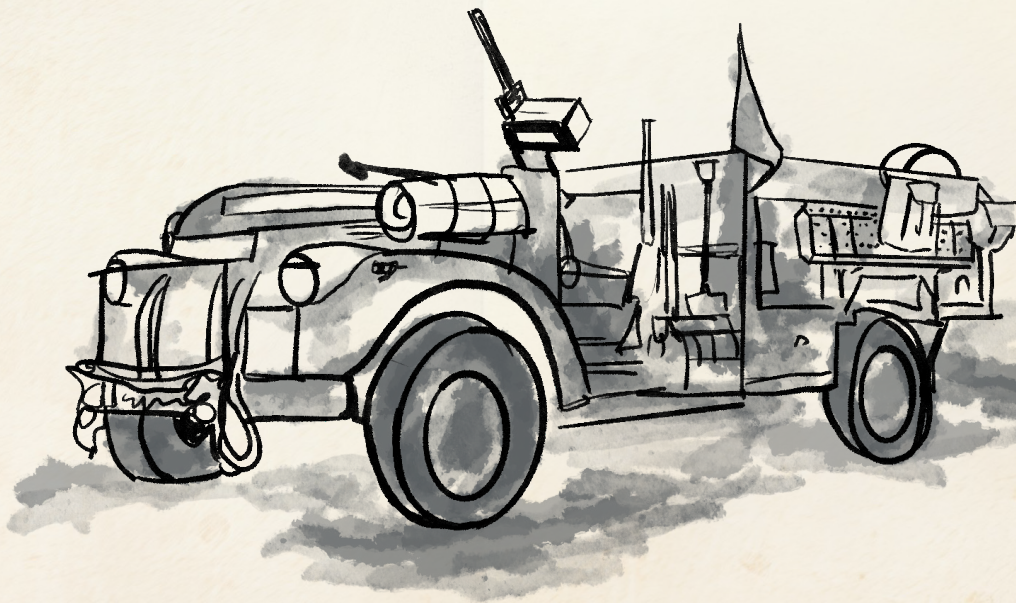
19:00-19:15

HAWAIIAN SHIRT COMPETITION

20:30-22:00

ENSA SHOW

Al Murray, James Holland & Special Guests



SATURDAY BRIEFING



09:00-10:00

CITADEL: CHURCHILL AT CHARTWELL

James Holland & Katherine Carter

Katherine Carter is a curator and historian who has managed the house and collections at Chartwell, Winston Churchill's country home, for 12 years. Her first book, *Churchill's Citadel: Chartwell and the Gatherings Before the Storm*, published by Yale University Press, has received rave reviews and critical acclaim. Today she takes you and Jim through the life and times of Churchill at his rural retreat, offering a fascinating insight into the man and the society he lived in.

10:30-11:30

MIDSHIPMEN AT WAR

Al Murray & Brian Lavery

Sure, we've all heard about the great warships and their dauntless leaders from the Second World War - or at least WHW audiences have this year thanks to our newfound nautical bearings - but what of the more lowly sailors on the high seas? Join Brian Lavery as he gives Al an expert tour of life for the lowest-ranking officers, as all about them Pocket Battleships and Wolf Packs roamed.

11:45-12:45

PHILBY'S WAR

Antonia Senior

Antonia Senior's latest book on the Cambridge Five has been causing a stir as a magnificent new look at Stalin's Western collaborators. At WHWF6 we're expecting no punches to be pulled as Antonia outlines the real-world costs to Kim Philby's betrayal.

13:00-14:00

SAS: THE GREAT TRAIN RAID

Damien Lewis

Join Damien Lewis as he discusses a wartime mission unlike any other. Autumn 1943: the SAS hijack a train, raid deep into enemy territory, and liberate a concentration camp. A mission so extraordinary, yet so secret, that barely any record exists. Via first-hand testimonies and long-hidden files, Damien has unearthed the incredible details, bringing to life an astonishing tale of bravery, daring and determination which showcases the SAS at their very finest.

14:30-15:30

BLITZ: WHEN WORLD WAR TWO CAME HOME

James Holland & John Nichol

RAF legend John Nichol comes to WHWF vi to talk about the Blitz, the world changing unprecedented bombing campaign by the Luftwaffe against the British Isles, when modern war came to civilian Britain.

16:00-17:00

WEIMAR: LIFE ON THE EDGE OF CATASTROPHE

Katja Hoyer

Katja Hoyer is a long-time friend of the show, and always a festival favourite, with her powerful stories of Germany during the 20th Century. This year, Katja is regaling us with stories of Weimar Germany, that tumultuous time sandwiched between Imperial Germany and The Third Reich, and the doom that was about to befall ordinary Germans of the interwar years.

17:30-18:30

THE NAZIS' GREATEST FAILURE: BARBAROSSA

David Stahel

In recent years David Stahel has overturned so much of the established view of Operation Barbarossa, carving through the narrative and finding a far more compelling story than the usual shattering victories of the Nazi war machine. We are delighted that David has made the journey from Australia to join us and share this latest thrilling scholarship.

19:00-20:00

TOTALLY SPIES: WARTIME INTELLIGENCE

Antonia Senior & Gordon Corera

The Second World War is often presented as a triumph for British intelligence - Bletchley Park and SOE the jewels in the British intelligence crown. But disaster stalked every turn, with German ruthlessness, American indifference and Soviet inspired treachery lurking throughout. Antonia - recent chronicler of the Cambridge Spies, and the Rest is Classified's Gordon Corera dissect wartime intelligence.

SATURDAY ARSENAL



09:00-09:30

SMALL TALK: WW2 STORIES THROUGH SCALE MODELS

Chris Adam

The Second World War is often told through maps, memoirs and monuments, but sometimes its most human moments live in the margins. Join Chris Adam as he uses three scale model dioramas to zoom in on those moments: a Spitfire being prepared for D-Day, a Sherman Firefly moving towards the line and an aircraft abandoned as the war draws to an end. These aren't models of battles; they're models of people. By telling big history through small scenes, Chris explores how we remember the war, and how we might keep telling its stories to future generations.

10:00-10:30

HELMETS OF THE HOME FRONT

Adrian Blake & George Blake

There were literally thousands of different helmet rank markings and colours, but the subject still remains a mystery to the majority of WW2 enthusiasts. Everyone from the Mayor to Canteen Staff wore helmets and the vast majority carried a plethora of letters and markings in an attempt to display who they were and what they did. Join double-act Adrian and George Blake as they take you on a whistle-stop tour of the helmets of the home front, from the more well known markings like Warden Hodges from "Dads Army" and some of the lesser known and simply bizarre examples.

11:00-11:30

JUNGLE COMMANDOS

Lucy Betteridge-Dyson

Stalwart of WHWF, Lucy Betteridge-Dyson is a military & animal historian, author and PhD candidate at the Defence Studies Department, King's College London. She has a strong personal connection to the Burma Campaign through her grandfather, Captain Edwin Alan Robert Syms, who served with 44 (Royal Marine) Commando during the Third Arakan Campaign, the subject of her first book, Jungle Commandos: The Battle for Arakan, Burma 1945. Regardless of how forgotten the Forgotten War was to you before this talk, you will go away with a newfound appreciation for the allied troops who endured not just Imperial Japanese forces, but also the jungle itself.

12:00-12:30

DEFENDING THE NORTHERN SKIES

Ben Willbond & Tim Willbond

Defending the Northern Skies is the story of two air battles in the North during the Battle of Britain which took place on the same day; it compares and contrasts and shows how one battle was well fought whilst the other was less so.

13:00-13:30

SACRIFICE IN THE SOLOMONS: THE USS JUNEAU AND THE FIRST NAVAL BATTLE OF GUADALCANAL

John Clough

At WHWFV, John gave a barnstorming talk on the history of his native Alaska during WW2. And he's back! We're excited to announce his talk this year will be on the titanic clash between the US Navy and the Imperial Japanese Navy over Guadalcanal, a no-holds-barred bar room brawl of a battle at sea - often fought at night and at point-blank range.

14:00-14:30

THE REAL MONEYPENNIES OF WW2

Ashleigh Percival-Borley

Ash Percival-Borley is a British Army veteran with thirteen years of service as a combat medic and Senior NCO, and a BBC/AHRC New Generation Thinker 2025, bringing both lived military experience and rigorous historical scholarship to Britain's secret war. SOE's secret war relied on civilian secretaries whose work made operations possible. This talk will centre on June Darton of Force 139, who decoded signals, planned parachute drops, and received desperate pleas from Polish operatives during the Warsaw Uprising, men she had known personally. Alongside Barbara Bertram at Bignor Manor, who fed French agents, sewed cyanide into uniforms, and timed departures to moonlight before D-Day, these little-known women exposed the hidden infrastructure of special operations. Not intelligence clerks, but operational enablers, they shatter the Moneypenny myth and reveal secretaries working at the very edge of war.

15:00-15:30

MASTER & COMMANDER: NIMITZ & VICTORY ON THE FAR SIDE OF THE WORLD

Trent Hone

Admiral Nimitz assumed command in the aftermath of the devastating attack on Pearl Harbor. Trent's talk will explore how he, his staff, and his subordinates revitalized the Pacific Fleet, reconfigured it for modern war, and overcame initial Japanese superiority to achieve victory. As the talk will demonstrate, Nimitz and team did this through effective collaboration between talented individuals, rapid learning that took advantage of new opportunities, the creation of valuable options for future exploitation, and a disciplined approach to risk that balanced tactical decisions with strategic objectives.

16:00-16:30

MERCHANTMEN: THE ATLANTIC EXPERIENCE

Chris Gatenby

Chris Gatenby is a Mariner whose career has unfolded in the same waters where the Battle of the Atlantic was fought. A former Royal Navy Officer who also uniquely served in the Merchant Navy as an Able Seaman through to Master before becoming a Liverpool Pilot, he brings a working seafarer's understanding of Convoys, weather, seaman ship, hard living and survival — the realities that shaped the Merchant Navy's brutal war. As a Helm and Trainer on the West Kirby Lifeboat, Chair of the North West Ports Welfare Committee, and trustee of the Liverpool Shipwreck and Humane Society, Chris remains deeply connected to the traditions of courage and service that defined wartime Merchant Sailors. His talk aims to cut through the myths to tell the story from the Bridge, the Engine Room, Lifeboat and the Rescue: the grit, the fear, and the extraordinary professionalism of the men who kept Britain alive in her darkest hours.

17:00-17:30

AT HITLER'S PICNIC: THE NUREMBERG RALLY AND THE WAR

Madeleine Johnson

This is an immersive experience and a fresh look at something we all think we already know about; the 1934 Nazi party rally at Nuremberg. In this fascinating talk, Madeleine will show original slides of the rally, which were saved from burning by a GI in Germany in 1945. The audience can experience seeing the rally through the eyes of someone who was there, the show's creator and his Nazi buddies. An art historian's approach will reveal what these images of jovial Gauleiters and litter-strewn parade grounds say about who made this show and why, unlocking surprising connections between the famous propaganda fest and WW2, from military and deportation logistics to RAF leaflets. The contrast between this slideshow and Triumph of the Will should provoke WHWF into considering how much Nazi propaganda we still fall for.

18:00-19:00

BLACKBEARDS OF THE AEGEAN

John Wilson

This is a story of hide and seek among the isles; of clandestine operations and the long range insertion of observation and attack teams including the famous Dane Anders Lassen, VC; and the story of a flotilla of converted and covertly operated civilian ships co-opted to military use and manned by a mix of Royal Navy, army and Commonwealth forces that sailed the east Mediterranean. Ripping a page out of the LRDG playbook and led by a seaborne version of Ralph Bagot, one Adrian Seligman RNVR. These stories need to be heard to be believed!

18:45-19:30

NEWS OF THE WAR

Andy Aitcheson & Merryn Walters

Andy and Merryn - beyond being veritable stalwarts of the WHW experience - are also the co-hosts of the News Of The War Podcast, where they take a look at the newspaper headlines behind the front lines from the Second World War.

Read all about it! What ELSE happened during WW2? Digging into the headlines at home and on the frontlines, this is ALL the News of The War - everything that is fit to print at least!

19:30-20:00

BY AIR TO BATTLE: KNOWLEDGE DISPELS FEAR

Dave Allen & Tony Pastor

David Allen is a Senior Non-Commissioned Officer with over 23 years of experience within the Parachute Regiment. He joined the British Army at 19 and was assigned to the First Parachute Battalion in 2004. In the following 2 decades, he has participated in everything from brigade level exercises to being part of the UK's high readiness spearhead, training recruits at the Parachute Regiment Depot - ITC Catterick, police support operations in Northern Ireland and combat operations across the Middle East. A qualified military and civilian parachutist, he currently works at the Airborne Delivery Wing at RAF Brize Norton. David is a returning WHWF speaker, sometime article contributor to the podcast, and technical advisor on Goalhanger's developing audio projects and seemingly the only member of its airborne fraternity that doesn't talk about bridges in September.

SATURDAY ENSA



09:30-10:00

HARDWARE CHAT

Nicholas Moran & Tobin Jones

What's it like to run historic tanks? Join historian and tanker Nicholas Moran and military vehicle expert Tobin Jones for a conversation about all things hardware.

13:00-14:00

IN CONVERSATION WITH...

Arthur Bostrom & Ben Willbond

How does an actor engage with the Second World War through the lens of comedy? Besides his work on 'Allo 'Allo!, Arthur has had an accomplished career on the stage, radio and as a voiceover artist.

14:00-14:30

DOCKYARD DOGS

Join the Dockyard Dogs for a rousing set of sea shanties.

15:30-16:00

IN CONVERSATION WITH...

Al Murray & The Colonel

Expect insightful and in-depth explorations as the two colonels discuss all things airborne.

16:30-17:15

PATTON: MYTH VS MAN

Kevin Hymel & John McManus

America's foremost expert on General Patton, Kevin Hymel, sits down to talk with his friend and WW2 Live co-host John McManus, as they have an informal if lively discussion about the controversial man. Is it possible to pick apart all the myths that surround a man with pearl-handled pistols and one too many knocks to the head?

17:30-18:00

THE BLUEBIRDS

21:30-22:00

NED HOLLAND

22:30-23:00

THE BLUEBIRDS

The image features a wide, vibrant red diagonal band that stretches from the top-left towards the bottom-right. The background is a light cream or off-white color with a visible, slightly mottled texture, resembling aged paper. Centered within the red band is the word "SUNDAY" in a bold, white, serif typeface. The letters are closely spaced and have a classic, slightly formal appearance.

SUNDAY



09:00-10:00

TO HELL & BACK: US GROUND FORCES IN THE PACIFIC

John McManus & Saul David

Two titans of the WHW scene, join JMac and Saul as they pool their collective knowledge of US Ground Forces in the Pacific - namely the US Army and the US Marine Corps - and the horrendous fight they had to endure against a fanatical foe.

10:30-11:30

USE THE FLEET! THE ATLANTIC WAR

James Holland & Marc Milner

The Royal Navy, the bastion of tradition, the foundation of British Imperial power had the most important war to fight - the war against German sea power in the Atlantic. Alongside its Canadian allies, and eventual American partners, the Royal Navy took on some of the hardest yards of the war against an enemy desperate to strike the strategic blow it needed to win the war. Jim and Marc fire up the ASDIC, tap on the side of the cavity magnetron and make the most of their sea legs.

12:00-13:00

ARNHEM TOP TEN

Al Murray, Niall Cherry & Saul David

Last year's Arnhem event with Niall and Jory Brentjens was packed and cut short - so to make up for it we're doing it all again but Al and Saul David to thrash out some of the stickiest Arnhem myths that, like 1st Airborne, just can't be budged no matter what. With Niall's fingertip knowledge of the ground, Saul's overview of British Airborne forces, and Al's long term love of the subject we hope to finally scratch the Arnhem itch.

13:30-14:30

WHWF6 BEST BITS & THE FUTURE OF WHW

Al Murray & James Holland

A wrap up show featuring all of Jim and Al's favourite parts of this year's festival, as well as an exciting look at all the things in the future for premier warwaffle and the world's largest Second World War show.

SUNDAY BRIEFING



09:00-10:00

COLLAPSE: HOW THE SECOND WORLD WAR STARTED IN 1931

James Holland & Jonathan Fennell

Long before Hitler invaded Poland, the international order was already coming apart. Across China, Ethiopia and Spain, the conflicts of the 1930s were not simply warning signs of a future world war; they were part of the process by which that war took shape.

It was almost impossible for the major powers to consider any one of these assaults on the status quo in isolation of the others. In the same way that historians of the Cold War do not view the wars in Korea and Vietnam in isolation, but conceive of them as part of a greater whole, we should recognize that the conflicts in China, Ethiopia and Spain were part of a larger construct. In treating them as distinct events, we misunderstand each one.

10:30-11:30

THE MEDIA AT WAR

Al Murray & Terry Stiastry

Join broadcaster and author Terry Stiastry as she talks to Al all about the murky world of black propaganda and the role BBC played in communicating not just to the home front, but also to enemy ears abroad.

12:00-13:00

THEIR FINEST HOUR: STRINGBAGS OVER TARANTO

Rowland White

In a year of Stringbag love for WHW, who better than firm favourite Rowland White to take us through the Fairey Swordfish's crowning glory - the raid on Taranto the crippled the Italian Navy in one night, against the odds.

SUNDAY ARSENAL



08:15-08:30

SERVICE & ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

Rev Canon David Banbury CF (Rtd)

09:00-09:30

SECRET SUBMARINE MISSIONS & THE NAZI-JAPANESE RELATIONSHIP: THE STORY OF OPERATION KAISER

Molly Wilson

In December 1944, a German submarine carrying scientists, jet engine parts, V-2 technology, and 64 tonnes of mercury set out for Japan; triggering the most intriguing story of submarine warfare never told...

10:00-10:30

JUNGLE RESCUE 1944

Bas Kreuger

In 1944 a US B-25H crash landed in a huge swamp, 60 miles from the coast in New Guinea, the crew as good as sentenced to death, either by nature, Papua's or the Japanese. The Allies, not being able to pick them up with a PB4Y, decided on a dangerous rescue mission. An Australian, US, Dutch team was sent hundreds of miles behind enemy lines to rescue the four man crew. They fought the jungle, the leeches, the Japanese and in a three week mission succeeded in saving the crew. Join Bas for more on this thrilling adventure!

11:00-11:30

U-BOATS

Roger Moorhouse

Friend of the show Roger is back for another barnstorming WHWF talk, and given the nautical flavour of the show this year, his insight into the German U-Boats is timely! Everything you wanted to know about the wolf packs beneath the waves - and more - is in store during a talk that is bound to captivate.

12:00-13:00

THE MARTYRDOM OF DIETRICH BONHOEFFER: THE LAST EIGHT DAYS

John McCabe

Dietrich Bonhoeffer was a German Lutheran pastor, theologian, and anti-Nazi dissident. Known for his profound writings on Christian discipleship, ethics, and the role of the Church in society, he was a key figure in the Confessing Church movement that opposed Hitler's regime. Join John as he recounts the tragic tale of Bonhoeffer and his execution in the closing days of 1945 for his involvement in a plot to overthrow Hitler.



SUNDAY ENSA



10:00-10:30

HARDWARE CHAT

Emily Cunningham & Tom Cunningham

What's it like to run historic tanks? Join military vehicle experts Emily and Tom from Track and Wheel for a conversation about all things hardware.

11:30-12:00

WAITMAN BEORN IN CONVERSATION WITH DAVID STAHEL

Waitman Beorn & David Stahel

Historians Waitman Beorn and David Stahel discuss the Holocaust and how the Eastern Front propelled unspeakable acts of genocide and crimes against humanity.

