



RAVELIN, THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE PATRIMONIAL FORTIFICATIONS

2023- Number 003

Published by the IFC for their members and partners 4 editions per year

EDITORIAL

The IFC is pleased to send you the third issue of its Newsletter, a publication to keep you informed of its activity and that of its members who work for the protection, conservation and enhancement of our heritage. fortified, witnesses of our history. Our Newsletter (4 issues per year) is published in March, June, September and December. Ravelin gives you information on the actions of the IFC as well as member associations.

PRESIDENT'S WORD

Dear readers,

Today you are receiving the third issue of the IFC Newsletter with a wealth of interesting information from the field of international fortification research. Above all, you will find news from the fields of work of the IFC's 12 members to date on conferences, excursions, publications and other projects. With Portugal, another country is currently on the verge of becoming a member of the IFC. We are endeavouring to win further associations that are concerned with the research, preservation and valorisation of the cultural heritage "fortification" in their country and see in the IFC an opportunity to exchange experiences, know-how and contacts on an international platform. If you would like to contribute information from your association to the newsletter, the editors (marc.gayda@yahoo.fr) would be very pleased. We are currently working on a renewal of the IFC website and we hope to go online this year.

Finally, I would like to thank M. Gayda for taking the trouble to compile the newsletter and wish you an interesting read.

Andreas Kupka M.A.

IFC NEWS

This calendar is drawn up by the CDSG based on information provided by our members on their planned activities. It is regularly updated and will be included in the first section of our Newsletter

- Jun 7 –10:** Cherbourg Annual Congress Association Vauban - contact@association-vauban.org
- Sep -6 - 8 :** St Augustine, Florida Annual Conference
Council on America's Military Past- bridgethshea@hotmail.com
- Sep 7- 10:** Kufstein (Aus) Annual Meeting DGF - akupka@juelich.de
- Sep 9 – 16:** Northern Poland Study Tour CDSG and FSG - tcmcgovern@att.net
- Sep 13 – 18:** Oahu, Hawaii Tour
Valor Tour - valortours@yahoo.com
- Sep 18- 22:** American Samoa Tour Valor Tour - valortours@yahoo.com
- Sep 15 – 18 :** Bodensee, Limmat, Rhine Tour ASMEM - president@www.asmem.ch
- Sep 19 – 23:** Liège, Namur, Maastricht Study tour Association Vauban - contact@association-vauban.org
- Sep 23 Oct 01:** Rome Study Tour ECCOFORT hrv.neumann@t-online.de
- Oct 20-23:** Chatham UK Annual Meeting IFC - secretariat@internationalfortresscouncil.org
- Oct 20-23:** Chatham UK Annual Conference FSG - chairman@fsgfort.com
- Sep 23 Oct 01 Rome Study Tour
ECCOFORT hrv.neumann@t-online.de

IFC NEWS

PORTUGAL

New member Associacao Portuguesa dos Amigos dos Castelos (founded in 1983). We are very glad to welcome this Society which work for the preservation of the patrimonial fortifications in Portugal. They are welcome for our next General Assembly in Chatham !



More information about APC on their website: <https://amigosdoscastelos.pt>

KOREA

We should receive for our Chatham General Assembly a Korean delegation from the Gyeonggi Cultural Foundation with whom we signed a partnership agreement in July 2022. On this occasion the Korean delegation will also meet our friends from the FSG

Oct 19 to 22 th, General Assembly of IFC at Chatham, England (U.K.). International Fortress Council Annual Meeting, organization : John Harris, chairman@fsgfort.org (thanks to the staff of the FSG for the good work about the preparation of the Congress organization) and information about IFC with Jeroen van der Werf, secretariat@internationalfortresscouncil.org. The IFC's members are invited to participate to this meeting. Confirm your participation to John Harris.

See below the programme :

Invitation to the General Assembly of 2023. On behalf of the Fortress Study Group, the associations members will receive an invitation to the General Assembly of the IFC in Gravesend, England.

Thursday 19 October 2023: ca. 19:00 informal welcome meeting at the hotel in Gravesend. –

Friday 20 October 2023: In the morning visit of Tilbury Fort by ferry across the Thames and a visit of Gravesend Blockhouse and New Tavern Fort in the afternoon. In the evening General Assembly after dinner. –

Saturday 21 October 2023: travel to Rochester by train. Visit the Chatham defence line and Fort Amhurst in the morning. After lunch visit the Engineers Museum –

Sunday 22 October 2023: travel to Rochester by train. Visit the Chatham dockyards and forts of the outer defence ring of Chatham in the morning. Visit Rochester castle in the afternoon. Sunday evening: end of the official programme

FOLLOWING

INFORMATIONS FROM OUR MEMBERS

These informations was collected from the elements transmitted by the associations or mentioned on their websites. When we have no new information on recent or future news, only the references of the website are mentioned.

AUSTRIA : ÖSTERREICHISCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR FESTUNGSFORSCHUNG

In the last December, the Society created on December 13, 2007 celebrated its fifteenth anniversary

Projects and Cooperations:

Project „Written in the Landscape“ (Wil) (Universität Bozen)

<https://www.culturalheritage.unibz.it/written-in-the-landscape/>

Architectural project for the flat roof waterproofing and protection of window and door openings in fort no. 41a "Mydlniki", Kraków

<http://www.kuk-fortification.net/>

BELGIUM : SIMON STEVIN VLAAMS VESTINGBOUWKUNDIG CENTRUM

www.simonstevin.org

CROATIA : NACIONALNA UDRAGA ZA FORTIFIKACIJE (NUF) www.nuf.hr

CZECH REPUBLIK : CZECH ASSOCIATION FOR MILITARY HISTORY (CAMH) [KVH](http://kvh.cz)

[Praha \(kvh-praha.cz\)](http://kvh-praha.cz)

FRANCE : ASSOCIATION VAUBAN

The A.V. took part in publishing the catalog of the exhibition organized by the Musée des Plans Reliefs (Hôtel National des Invalides) The Alps, a border? which opens from June 1 to January 8, 2024. Exhibition of models of strongholds in the Alps as well as maps and iconographic documents from the museum's collections.

June 6 to 10th Association Vauban's congress at Cherbourg (Normandy) and General Assembly on the 7th of June :Attribution of the Vauban Association Prize for for the preservation of the fortified heritage at Fort Comboire (near Grenoble) and for knowledge of the fortifications to the reissue of François Noel Richard's work, Iles du Frioul, l'histoire, preface by Nicolas Faucherre (the first edition was published in 2018 by Les Alpes de Lumière editions).

Visit the Cherbourg Fortifications, the fortifications of English Normandy Islands (Guernsey) with their fortifications completed during the Last WWII by the German Occupation Army, Vauban fortifications at St Vaast la Hougue, Tatihou and St Marcouf. On this occasion, we were able to discover the fortifications protecting the largest artificial harbor in the world built to protect the port of Cherbourg. During the General Assembly, distribution to our members of number 45 of the “Lettre des Oisivetés” (as “Letter of Idleness” with reference to the writings of Vauban), bi-annual journal of our association. The digital edition of our newsletter is also available.

Sept : 2023 Study tour : Liege (Belgium) and Maastricht, information on

contact@association-vauban.org

Tuesday, September 19 : Fort of Eben-Emael. Located in the commune of Bassenge, no away from the border with the Netherlands. The day will continue with a visit to the Fort de Tancremont (or Fort de Pepinster).

Wednesday 20, Visit of the forts prior to 1914: fort de Loncin and another Lentin, Boncelle...(Liege's Forts Belt)

Thursday 21, Visit to Maastricht: urban wall and Fort Saint Pierre and the exhibition of the 350th anniversary of the death of Mr. D'Artagnan,

Friday 22, Visit of Namur with its citadel (Vauban and Coehoorn and whose fortified belt is composed of 9 forts) and Dinant.

Saturday 23, (optional day), visit of Waterloo site and museum.

In preparation, co-edition with the Historical Service of the Army (SHD) for the acts of the Vauban conference « Les Vaubans de l'Empereur' (Invalides sept 25th 2021) and the conference of The Emperor Fortresses at the Vincennes Castle on the May 2022, 16th (video relation on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6yJcc03W-BI>); All the papers are collected and we are awaiting the impression.

www.association-vauban.org , mel adress contact@association-vauban.org

GERMANY : DEUTSCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR FESTUNGFORSCHUNG

_Sept 7-10th: 42th Annual Meeting at Kufstein (Austria), Conference Theme: The Power of the Elements - Fire and Water in Fortresses. Contact and information: Andres Kupka, president, akupka@juelich.de

www.festungsforschung.de

ITALY : RETE DELLE FORTIFICAZIONI www.fortedibard.it

The Museum Fort of Bramafam opening in 2023 (website <https://www.fortebamafam.it/>) :

June: every Saturday and Sunday

July: every Saturday and Sunday

August: all month

September: every Sunday

October: every Sunday

Opening hours: from 10.00 to 18.30. Last entry at 17.00 (Average visit time approx. 2-3 hours).

***The fort of Fenestrelle** (visits, see the website <https://www.fortedifenestrelle.it/le-visite/>) is also in the spotlight at the Musée des Plans Reliefs in Paris as part of the exhibition "The Alps, a border?" with the presentation after its restoration of the plan-relief of Fenestrelle (Hotel National des Invalides, Paris until January 8, 2024)

La Rocca d'Anfo (<https://www.roccadanfo.eu/la-rocca/>):

The “Rocca al chiaro di Luna” experience returns! In the fantastic location of the Rocca d’Anfo,

you can enjoy the view of Lake Idro during a walk at sunset.

Wednesday July 13 at 7:00 p.m.

Info and reservations on the website Book the guided tour – Rocca d’Anfo
(roccadanfo.eu)

or at n. 375 622 1121 (Info point)





LUXEMBURG : FRËNN VUN DER FESTUNGSGESCHICH

LËTZEBUERG : www.ffgl.lu

September : After close coordination with Association Vauban, FFGL Luxembourg will join the exploration excursion in Belgium (Liège, Namur, Huy, Dinant, Maastricht and Brussels)

Robert Wagner (president of FFGL) is writing a book about the history of Fort Lambert, one of the three additional French Forts being added by Vauban after the successful siege in 1684 against the Spanish garrison.

(Wagner, Robert ; *Fort Lambert*, Luxembourg, Collection : Ons Festung, 108 pages, in french ; on sale by FFGL : 20 € Euros + expédition : 3,5 €. Credit to account : CCPLLULL des Frënn vun der Festungsgeschicht Lëtzebuerg asbl IBAN LU19 1111 0186 0376 0000)

FFGL will also act as a partner in 2025 in the organisation of the „LUGA“ Luxembourg Urban Garden exhibition [Homepage - LUGA](#). At the start of the 20th century the French company Mercier was passing due to the political context through Luxembourg for bottling the champagne and selling it into Prussia. Some of the casemates belonging to Fort Du Moulin (dismantled after 1867) as well as new carved huge



SWITZERLAND : ASSOCIATION SAINT MAURICE D'ETUDES MILITAIRES (ASMEM) www.asmem.ch

Sep 15 to 18th Bodensee, Limmat, Rhine Tour, defences of the Easter-Northern and Northern boundary of the Switzerland. Association Saint-Maurice d' Etudes Militaires. Information with Col. EMG Schalbetter

president@www.asmem.ch

Dec 4th, Route du Signal, Champex, St. Barbe day

UNITED KINGDOM : FORTRESS STUDY GROUP

<https://www.fortressstudygroup.org/>

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA : COAST DEFENSE STUDY GROUP

September 9 to 18th, Northern Poland : Berlin, crossing the Oder River to Poland to visit night near the Oder-Warthe-Bogen Stellung (the heart of the German 'East Wall' with bunkers, enormous underground communication tunnels of this extraordinary defensive complex), Gdansk (fort of Posen, coast defences of the Gdansk Bay area, including the naval museum), on Hela Peninsula : a

underground rooms inside the sand stone rocks nearby the railway station were used as storing capacities. To remember this a Special Crémant cuvée “LUGA” will be stored in the ancient “casemates” which will be shown to the public during dedicated visits.

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MALTA : FONDAZZJONI WIRT ARTNA

(Malta Heritage Trust) :

www.wirtartna.org (candidate member)

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NETHERLANDS : MENNO VON COEHOORN

Sept 9th : Cold War fortifications close Den Bosch and Vught (OvB), inscription 6-8 weeks before the date

Last parution of the nr 4/2022 of the Revue Saillant published in December, a publication of MvC for its members and partners.

www.coehoorn.nl

Portugal - APAC- ASSOCIAÇÃO DOS AMIGOS DOS CASTELOS ([Associação Portuguesa dos Amigos dos Castelos](#))

The “Associação Portuguesa dos Amigos dos Castelos” -APAC, a non-profit association, founded in 1983, is a national association for the defense of heritage, and its objectives are the safeguarding and dissemination of natural and built heritage, with a special focus on fortified and military heritage. In 2023, the APAC was approved as ONG and in 2008 it was granted the status of

Third Reich proving ground and a Soviet nuclear warhead storage complex, Swinoujscie with some Prussian forts, Illrd Reich fortifications and Soviet batteries. Information: Terry McGovern, tcmcgovern@att.net

October 20-23 th, FSG Annual conference, responsible John Harris.

The publication of the winter issue of the CDSG Newsletter is available on the association's website

(<https://cdsg.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/CDSGNews223.pdf>). It's a very interesting relation

about the Study Tour 2022 in Sweden with various historical and cold War fortifications in this country

Coast Defense Journal Volume 37 is being published in 2023 (order available on the association's website)

<https://cdsg.org/>

FSG Webinar programme and recordings

The up to date programme of future webinars is on the [website events page](#) the following is subject to change.

05 July 23 - Freshwater Redoubt - Rik Smith

19 July 23 - topic tbc - Roger Thomas

02 Aug 23 - Air Defence of The Netherlands during the Cold War - Kees Neisingh

Public Utility. This Association is linked to different Entities as the Forum Heritage, an institution that brings together several civil society associations and aims to define a concerted strategy of civic intervention in the defense of cultural heritage built for greater effectiveness of action on the ground. The APAC have about 1000 associates across the country, and its activity are distributed in three different areas: Cultural Heritage, Dissemination and Education. The first one developed scientific activity as Congresses on Military Monuments, the last one held in September 2022, and other are distributed by Courses and Conferences. This year 2023 we have already held a Course on "Military Orders and Fortifications", and the course "Great Battles in Universal History" is taking place along May 2023 -

<https://amigosdoscastelos.pt/>

AAPAC celebrate its 40th anniversary in 2023, and in

October 8, National Day of the Castles, will have a program in the Castle and Convent of Tomar, the Headquarters of the Templar Military Order, very important for the foundation of Portugal as a Nation.

Ravelin, the newsletter of the International Fortress Council, Editorial Comitee : IFC Chairman (Andreas Kupka) ; Vice Chairman (Marc Gayda) ; General secretary (Jereon an der Werf) and the redactor of the IFC/CDSG calendar (Terry Mc Govern)

Mariaplaats 51, 3511LM Utrecht, The Netherlands -

secretariat@internationalfortresscouncil.org

16 Aug 23 - Coastal Defences of the British Empire in the Revolutionary & Napoleonic Eras - Daniel MacCannell

06 Sep 23 - Heritage-led Regeneration, Portsmouth's Fortifications - Deniz Beck

20 Spe 23 - tbc

Log in details for the 1st Wednesday of every month

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82754848667?
pwd=SnFQcHE4SG9qOFI5NFJGVWINR
zhJdz09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82754848667?pwd=SnFQcHE4SG9qOFI5NFJGVWINRzhJdz09)

Meeting ID: 827 5484 8667

Passcode: 789990

International Fortress Council

secretariat@internationalfortresscouncil.org

<http://www.internationalfortresscouncil.org/>

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[Se désabonner](#)