

# The Institute of Polish Military History (IPMH)



## The Vision

*In order to build on the momentum generated over the last 7 years by the PHS UK Military History conferences it is proposed that an institute of Polish Military History be established.*

### Initial premises

1. That an Institute of the Polish Military History (Niezależny Instytut Historii Polskiej Wojskowości) be established in London in 2020.
2. That the Institute be part of Polish Heritage Society (UK) which is registered as a charity.
3. That it will be associated with other relevant organisations.
4. That it offer the following:
  - a. annual conferences based on the model so effectively pioneered by the PHS (UK);
  - b. regular lectures and courses, some of them on-line, on aspects of Polish military history;
  - c. a one-year part-time graduate diploma based on course work and a dissertation.
5. That all lectures and courses be delivered in English.
6. That dissertations be written in English.
7. That the conferences and lectures be open to members of the public.
8. That the diploma course be open to graduates of all ages and disciplines, with a sound command of English.
9. That diploma students pay fees comparable to those charged by PUNO.
10. That some scholarships/financial aid be provided, the funds to be raised from private donors.
11. That thought be given to eventual institutional accreditations.

A message from our President,  
Field Marshal The Lord Guthrie of  
Craigiebank GCB LVO OBE



I am delighted to be associated with the work of the Polish Heritage Society UK and very honoured to serve as its President. The Society's work highlights the enormous contribution which generations of Poles have made to their adopted country. Preserving and celebrating that heritage will only further strengthen the ties between Poland and the United Kingdom.

I worked closely with the Society on the project to build a memorial to the Polish Allied Forces at the National Memorial Arboretum and saw at first hand the energy and dedication of those involved.

I encourage you to explore our website and learn about the many other projects the society has sponsored. Do please contact us if you would like to get involved in any way.

Field Marshal The Lord Guthrie of  
Craigiebank GCB LVO OBE



## Specific organizational details



1. That the administrative structure be as lean as possible: Dean of Faculty, Assistant Dean of Faculty.
2. Some initial administration assistance might be required (via PHS UK).
3. That everyone work for the Institute *pro bono* (Expenses Policy TBA).
4. That a number of visiting lecturers be found, who will also provide their services *pro bono* (Expenses Policy TBA).
5. That the budget expenses cover rental of premises, insurance (if required), course materials, website, marketing materials etc.
6. A website and other critical supporting platforms (cloud-based distance learning platform) be devised.
7. That the regular lectures and courses cover:
  - a. a survey in English of the history of East & Central Europe;
  - b. a survey in English of Polish military history through the ages;
8. That the diploma course comprise the following elements:
  - a. a survey in English of the history of East Central Europe;
  - b. a survey in English of Polish military history through the ages;
  - c. a short course in English on research techniques and sources of information;
  - d. a dissertation in English of 30,000 to 40,000 words.
9. Survey of Polish Military History: Dr Andrzej Suchcitz (PISM), Maj Gen John Drewienkiewicz, Col Richard Ciaglinski, Col Mike Russell, Dr Paul Latawski (Sandhurst).
10. Research techniques: Dr Andrzej Suchcitz (PISM), Dr Paul Latawski (Sandhurst), others.
11. Military Consultants: Maj Gen John Drewienkiewicz, Col Richard Ciaglinski, Col Mike Russell, Brigadier Justin Maciejewski (National Army Museum).

## Questions for next phase

1. Administrative and support structures. Dr Marek Stella-Sawicki MBE & Chris Januszewski
2. Need for a new Internet based distance learning platform TBE, Dr Marek Stella-Sawicki & Chris Januszewski

## Examples of Proposed Course in Polish Military History

1. Key stages in the history of Poland and the problems of Poland's geographical location.
2. Poland's wars against her neighbours: Teutons, Tartars, Prussians, Russians, Turks, Germans.
3. Important Polish battles before the 20th century: e.g. Grunwald/Tannenberg, Vienna, Chocim.
4. The Swedish wars.
5. The Polish Army during the Napoleonic Wars: the Peninsular War, Napoleon's Grande Armée.
6. Józef Piłsudski as war leader and the Russo-Polish War of 1919-20.
7. The development of the Polish Army 1920-1939.
8. Breaking the German Enigma cipher machine.
9. The development of the Polish Navy.
10. The development of the Polish Air Force. Polish airmen in the RAF 1939-1946: the Battle of Britain, Bomber Command.
11. Important Polish military events during WWII: the 1939 Campaign, the Polish Underground State 1939-1945, the French and Norwegian Campaigns 1940, Tobruk, Arnhem,



12. Major Polish military units during WWII: The Polish Carpathian Rifle Brigade, The Polish 1st Independent Parachute Brigade, The Polish 1st Armoured Division, Polish Second Corps, the Polish Army on the Eastern Front.
13. The development of the Polish Section of SOE and Poland's 'Silent and Unseen'.
14. Polish guerrilla forces over the years: e.g. 1830, 1863, the Wielkopolska and Silesian risings, the AK.
15. The great 'forlorn hopes': the uprisings of 1830 and 1863, the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising of 1943, the Warsaw Uprising of 1944.
16. The great romantic tradition - Polish military history in painting and literature: Juliusz, Wojciech and Jerzy Kossak, Jan Chelmiński, Artur Grottger, Jan Matejko, Henryk Sienkiewicz, Józef Kraszewski, Teofil Lenartowicz, Władysław Reymont.
17. Other possible related courses or topics of interest: Polish Military Medical Support and Education during 1939-1945 and post 1945, the search for the Polish WWII submarine Orzeł.

 PHS (UK) Military History Conferences  
30+ Visiting Lecturers 2014 -2019



<http://www.polishheritage.co.uk/>





**Carol Amador**  
Chairman, PHS (2014-2017)  
**Julia Daniels-Franklin**  
Vice-Chair, PHS (2014-2017)  
**Marianne Inghel**  
President, PHS (2014-2017)



**Ellen Krasowska**  
Chairman, PHS (2017-2019)  
**Andrzej Wlodek**  
Member of PHS (2014-2017)  
**Julia Dennis-Kilbourne**  
Member of PHS (2014-2017)



**Neil Austin**  
Member of PHS (2014-2017)  
**Karolina Szamotulska**  
Member of PHS (2014-2017)  
**Henry Gordon**  
Member of PHS (2014-2017)



**Leah West-Perkins**  
Member of PHS (2014-2017)  
**Helen Brantley**  
Member of PHS (2014-2017)  
**Myron Howard**  
Member of PHS (2014-2017)

## The Polish Heritage Society

### Organisation of the Polish Heritage Society (PHS)

#### Objectives of PHS

The Polish Heritage Society of the United Kingdom was founded on 04 February 2014 with the following aims:

- To act as an advocate for the continuing strong and historical relationship between the two nations of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Poland.
- To ensure that those memorials, monuments, buildings and other marks of remembrance and presence of the Polish people in the United Kingdom are recorded and their donors remembered for posterity.
- To promote greater community awareness amongst present and future generations of United Kingdom citizens of Polish origin of the historical links between the two countries and the promotion of acts of gratitude and remembrance across the United Kingdom.
- To work with other Polish groups, associations and societies in the common interest of the maintenance and protection of examples of Polish heritage in the United Kingdom acting as a constant reminder of why the Polish community is here.

#### Structure of PHS

The PHS is a not-for-profit society of volunteers drawn together to achieve the objects of the society.  
 Polish Heritage Society (UK) Limited was incorporated as a limited liability company on 04 February 2014 (Registered Number 07729923, England and Wales) and was registered as a charity by the Charity Commission (Registered Number 1143791) on 13 September 2014.  
 All positions are held on a voluntary and honorary basis.  
 PHS activities are entirely dependent on the goodwill of volunteers whose efforts are supported by public donations from companies and private individuals.

And those who always wholeheartedly supported Polish Heritage Society UK in our heritage projects but sadly departed:



## PHS (UK) Military History Conferences 30+ Visiting Lecturers 2014-2019

*Professor Norman Davies, Dr Andrzej Suchcitz (PISM/PUMST 1939-1945), Peter Devit (RAF Hendon), Dr Paul Latawski (Sandhurst), George Cholewczynski, Gen Mungo Melvin, Dr Halik Kochanski, Dr Andrzej Maczek, Dr Marek Stella-Sawicki, Maj Gen John Drewienkiewicz, Col Richard Ciaglinski, Dr Jeffrey Bines, Dr Bogdan Rowinski, Col Michael Russell (Aldershot), Eugenia Maresch (PUMST 1939-1945), Col Dr Juliusz Tym (National Defence Academy Warsaw), Dr Stephen Hart (Sandhurst), Dr Wojciech Rappak (PUNO), Dr Waldemar Grabowski (IPN), Dr Karol Sacewicz (IPN), Captain Mark Ponting (RAF), Jarosław Garlinski, Jerzy Scibor-Kaminski, Michal Mołga, Piotr Sikora, Anna Stefanicka (Piłsudski Institute London), Agnieszka Brissey (Piłsudski Institute New York), Roger Moorhouse, Dr Chris Mann (Sandhurst), Col Piotr Gastal (JW Grom)*

**Conference/Conference Proceedings Editorial Advisory Board:**  
 Dr Mark Stella-Sawicki, Dr Andrzej Suchcitz, Dr Paul Latawski, Chris Januszewski



# Who We Are

Registered UK Charity No.1102122 - <http://www.polishheritage.co.uk>

- **The Polish Heritage Society (UK)** in the United Kingdom, in short PHS(UK) was formed to promote greater community awareness amongst present and future generations of United Kingdom citizens of the historical links between Poland and the United Kingdom
- Incorporated as a limited liability company on 04 February 2011 (Registered Number 07517923, England and Wales) and was registered as a charity by the Charity Commission (Registered Number 1143791) on 13 September 2011.

The Polish Heritage Society of the United Kingdom was founded in 2011 with the following original aims:

1. To act as an advocate for the continuing strong and historical relationship between the two nations of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Poland.
2. To ensure that those memorials, monuments, buildings and other marks of remembrance and presence of the Polish people in the United Kingdom are recorded and their donors remembered for posterity.
3. To promote greater community awareness amongst present and future generations of United Kingdom citizens of Polish origin of the historical links between the two countries and the presence of acts of gratitude and remembrance across the United Kingdom.
4. To work with other Polish groups, associations and societies in the common interest of the maintenance and protection of examples of Polish heritage in the United Kingdom acting as a constant reminder of why the Polish community is here.

## Our Track Record

- Many major projects in London (9), Manchester (1), National Memorial Arboretum in Alrewas (2) and in Poland (1) were completed on Time and Budget
- PHS (UK) delivered 7 International Military History Conferences (RCDS, BCMH, Polish Embassy)
- PHS has published comprehensive Military History Conference Proceedings (4)
- PHS has restored many historic graves in England, (e.g. Christine Granville, Johan Zuckertort)
- PHS has erected their grey-blue historic plaques linked to British and Polish Heritage
- PHS has organised the Polish Contingent at the Cenotaph Parade on Remembrance Sunday with the Royal British Legion (6), also briefing BBC
- MBE Award for the above 100% *Pro Publico Bono* Community Work in 2012





National Service of Remembrance PHS UK 10 Years



On Sunday 10 November 2019, the National Service of Remembrance was held at the Cenotaph on Whitehall, London as supported by PHS UK and our Veterans. Below, National Memorial Arboretum 2009 in Alrewas.





The Polish II Corps, 1943–1947, was a major tactical and operational unit of the Polish Armed Forces in the West during World War II. It was commanded by Lieutenant General Władysław Anders and fought with distinction in the Italian Campaign, in particular at the Battle of Monte Cassino. During three subsequent battles, it suffered heavy losses in the final stage of the Battle of Monte Cassino.





19 May 2015 - Winning key German defensive positions at Monte Cassino and breaking the Hitler Line opened the way to Rome, which was taken over by the U.S. 5th Army on 4 June. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Polish Corps paid a very high price for its victory: 923 dead, 2,931 injured and 345 missing in action of whom 251 were found.









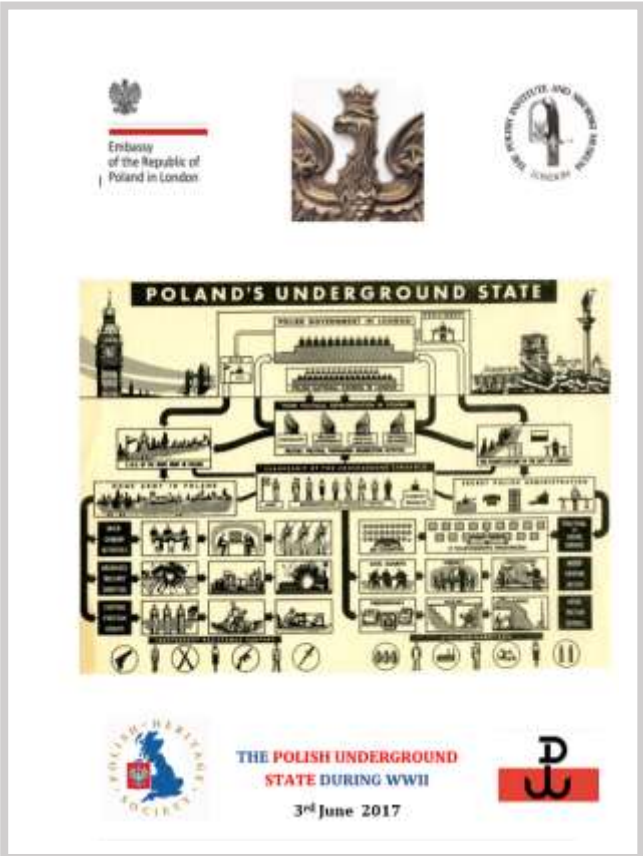
## POLISH MILITARY LEADERSHIP IN WWII CONFERENCE

This conference has been organised in partnership with the British Commission for Military History and the Polish Heritage Society UK, supported by the Polish Institute and Sikorski Museum and the Embassy of the Republic of Poland. It is being held at the Royal College of Defence Studies, London on 20th and 21st June 2014.

It includes a full assessment of 3 Polish Battlefield Generals (1939-1945), and The Battle of Britain, Polish Air Force 303 Fighter Squadron.



The role of senior Polish military commanders in the Allied effort during World War II was examined in depth at a conference in London on June 20-21, organised jointly by the British Commission for Military History and the Polish Heritage Society (UK). Norman Davies, UNESCO Professor at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, was the keynote speaker at the event, which was supported by the Polish Institute and Sikorski Museum and the Embassy of the Republic of Poland. The conference specifically considered the contributions of three Polish generals and the 303 Polish Squadron, which was the most successful Allied air force unit at shooting down enemy aircraft during the Battle of Britain. The generals to be discussed were: Lieut.Gen. Wladyslaw Anders, who commanded the 2nd Polish Corps in the battle for Monte Cassino during the Italian campaign; Gen. Stanislaw Maczek who commanded the Polish 1st Armoured Division in the Netherlands and Northern Germany; and Maj.Gen. Stanislaw Sosabowski who commanded the Polish Parachute Brigade during Operation Market Garden, the attempt to achieve the crossing of the river Rhine at Arnhem.



The selected examples of the Conference Proceedings of Military History Conferences during the 2014-2019 years as organised by the Polish Heritage Society UK in London. The combined attendance numbers of the delegates are in excess of 800.



Polish WWII Commanders, from the top left: Gen Władysław Anders (1892-1978), Premier RP Gen Władysław Sikorski (1883-1945), Gen Kazimierz Sosnkowski (1885-1969), Gen Stanisław Maczek (1883-1994), Gen Stanisław Sosabowski (1892-1947), Vice Admiral Jerzy Grotki (1882-1969), Gen Stanisław Kopaszki (1885-1976), Gen Tadeusz Bór Komorowski (1895-1966), Gen Stefan Grot-Rożewski (1895-1944).

## References and Support (2009-2020)

Celebrating the last 10 years of creative ideas, direction and delivery

You're welcome



Since 2014 the Polish Heritage Society UK have organised the following Military History Conferences:

1. Polish Military Leadership in WWII (2014) together with BCMH at RCDS
2. The Polish Section of S.O.E. or "Cichociemni" (2016) \*
3. Major General Stanisław Maczek DSO, an Assessment of Leadership and Command 1938 - 1945 (2016) \*
4. The Polish Underground State during WWII (2017) \*
5. The Battle of Britain -The Polish Story (2017) \*
6. The Military Road to Polish Independence (2018) \*
7. Revisiting the September Campaign 1939 - 80 Years Later (2019) \*
8. 10<sup>th</sup> October 2020 Military History Conference announced (2020) \*

Note: \* as organised at the Polish Embassy in London, the first 2-day conference in 2014 was jointly organised with British Commission for Military History (BCMh) and held at the Royal College of Defence Studies (RCDS).