

# WAR GAMES

SOLDIERS

& STRATEGY

II PERIOD Dec 09 - #50

THE MAGAZINE FOR THE DISCERNING WARGAMER

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## Battle of Talavera 1809

84  
pages



Issue  
**50**

- The Battle of Freeman's Farm  
America, 19th September 1777
- Struggle for Stalingrad  
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## Seasons greetings! Welcome to the 50th issue of Wargames, Soldiers and Strategy!

Another year comes to a close and what a year it has been! Despite the recession, we've seen an incredible rise in new wargames companies and an ever increasing amount of quality plastic miniatures in the hobby. This has all happened despite one of the largest world recessions in living memory. There's also been a plethora of new rules, including the recently released Blackpower rule set (see this issue). It seems us wargamers are spending their time and money on their hobby, which can only be a good thing!

I was once asked a question by a reader, "What did Wargames, Soldiers and Strategy stand for?" At first the question threw me, the magazine stands for many things, but how to summarise it in a single sentence? After our conversation, the answer came to me, I had been blind; it could be summed up in a single word: Passion!

David Gomez started WSS with his passion for the wargames hobby, it showed, no truly shined through. It is that love which first attracted me to the magazine. Many others, including myself, have contributed to the magazine with the same passion in history and wargaming at its myriad of levels, from tabletop to board game and from rulebook to computer screen. It is our wish to share that passion for our hobby we enjoy which spurs us on.

Things are also changing here at Wargames, Soldiers and Strategy. David Gomez has assembled a new team to improve the magazine. Never sit on your laurels! My thanks to John Kersey for giving me the opportunity to start writing for WSS and to David for letting me help with the future. We have a new format which is just the start of the changes we have planned, based on feedback from you the reader. If you wish to share your passion for the hobby with us, please do drop us a line.

## Now onto our special 50th issue:

Our thanks to Bill Gaskin for allowing us to photograph a small part of his vast Napoleonic collection for Talavera. Bill is well known for his passion for the hobby which includes some of the best scenery and miniatures we've ever seen, all the more remarkable as most of his miniatures are conversions! Thanks Bill!

We also have an AWI article on the new game, Blackpowder from Warlord Games. Expect a full review on the new game next month. There are our usual features and reviews plus a Stalingrad using the Flames of War Firestorm supplement.

Our sincere apologies go out to Dave Bodley from Grand Manner. He should have been given credit for his photos in our recent Assyrian article.

Well that's about it for this editorial. Let me wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy 2010! I hope the wargaming Santa brings you exactly what you want.

Guy Bowers - WSS UK Representative

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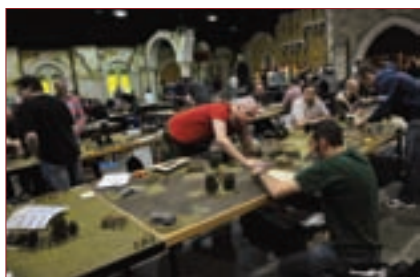
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## Warhammer Ancients Campaign Weekend, October 2009

**For several years now, Warhammer Historical Wargames ran a twice yearly event at Warhammer World, Lenton, in Nottingham. However since Rob Broom was sadly made redundant, the events were under threat of being stopped. There was no one to organise them**

Stepping into the breach were Phil Stirpe and Tim Haslam, who formed Historical Wargames, a group to help run the events and keep the spirit that Rob started alive. As these events are not run by ForgeWorld, a quick change of name was needed and this became the unofficial 'Campaign weekends' started.



These weekends feature the historical games produced by ForgeWorld (formerly at the Black Library), including Warhammer Ancient Battles, Trafalgar and Warmaster Ancients.

### THE VENUE

Warhammer World is a large venue purpose built for wargaming which includes its own Games Workshop store and the famous Bugman's bar. It is used around the year for the various Warhammer series of games including Fantasy and 40K tournaments, but twice a year they allow the historical gamers in.

The venue is impressive! The walls are designed like a late medieval fortress, complete with battlements. The



floor is made of flagstones. The lights have been upgraded, so it is very well lit and warm. It includes some four dozen gaming tables, each with themed terrain. War gamers heaven!

### THE CAMPAIGN WEEKENDS

The weekends have one basic tenet: its not about winning! The principle is to have a good fun game where both players end up smiling.



There are a variety of campaigns to choose from, each based on a period or supplement. They usually feature a variety of scenarios, including team and single games with some having large battles at the end of the event. The campaigns change for each event, so one time might see an Alexander campaign while the next an El Cid event.



The aim of these weekends is for all players both new and old to have fun – they are an opportunity to get together and play games – winning becomes secondary to having a good time. This event attracted just under eighty participants. Loan armies were available to borrow, particularly useful for those who

would like to try an event but don't have an army ready or handy.

### THE EVENTS

The type of campaign run varies from event to event. At the October event there were the following:

#### WARMASTER ANCIENTS

The Warmaster campaign was joined by the author of Warmaster, Rick Priestley. Dane Stephens and Murray Palmer once again organised an open Warmaster event.

#### TRAFALGAR

This campaign combined shore parties fighting land actions using Legends of the High Seas with sea battles using Trafalgar. The campaign finished with the battle of Trafalgar fought. History was changed and the British lost! Paul Scriven-Smith and Ian Turner organised this event.



#### THE FALL OF ASSYRIA

The Fall of Assyria was a Warhammer Ancient Battles game organised by Stephen May of Immortal miniatures. Sadly flu prevented Steve from attending so the author was asked to assist in running the event. The Babylonian rebels almost toppled their Assyrian overlords only to be defeated in the final battle.

#### HUNDRED YEARS WAR

This campaign fought the latter part of the Hundred Years War using the rules from the Clash of Kingdoms for WAB.