



**You are warmly invited to attend
our early December Lecture
at Millbank (*directions below*), also on Zoom
1830hrs Friday 8 December 2023**

**Our guest speaker, Michael Crumplin, presents
'Armageddon – Surgical Challenges in World War One'**



During the Crimean campaign, the preparation, organisation, logistics and cohesion of the various branches of the armed services often proved disastrous. Despite the arrival of a professional nursing service and general anaesthesia, the few surgical lessons from four decades previously had been forgotten. Between 1855 and 1914, much had been learned about disease processes but also, weaponry had become increasingly devastating.

In 1914, the RAMC was only 16 years old and, with many voluntary units, suddenly had to manage tens of thousands of casualties. Surgical specialities developed and strident efforts were made to reduce wound sepsis.

Many innovative surgical techniques were introduced and anaesthetic and transfusion provision evolved. Mortality from haemorrhage, shock and sepsis decreased as new management strategies were introduced. During the last year of the war casualty numbers exceeded those in each of the previous years, yet a greater proportion of wounded men survived than in each of these years.

This lecture will focus on how these clinical challenges were addressed and how this resulted in better management of military trauma than in any previous conflict.

Proceeds will be donated to the Museum of Military Medicine

**Prior registration required. Refreshments 1730hrs, supper nearby at 2000hrs.
All are welcome. Register [HERE](#) or via www.friendsofmillbank.org**





Our guest speaker



Michael Crumplin is a retired consultant surgeon, educated at Wellington College and the Middlesex Hospital. During his career, he was Chairman of the Court of Examiners of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, served on the council of the College and was elected an honorary fellow of the Edinburgh College and is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society and Historical Association.

A student of the history of surgery for over 40 years, he devotes time to writing, lecturing and supporting students, research workers and the media. His principal purpose is to promote interest in the human cost of war.

He is an honorary curator and archivist at the Royal College of Surgeons and has been a trustee of the Waterloo Committee - heading up the educational strategy for the bicentenary of the Battle of Waterloo.

He is also a trustee for the education project, the [Age of Revolution](#), funded by the Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, and he has created a unique surgical museum at Mont St Jean, the farm which served as the 1st Corps dressing station at Waterloo.

We are privileged to have Michael Crumplin round off our programme of talks for 2023.



Friends of Millbank



Recommended further reading:

Friends of Millbank weblinks 'The Defence Medical Services in the Great War'

Screenshot below, see: <https://www.friendsofmillbank.org/ww1/>



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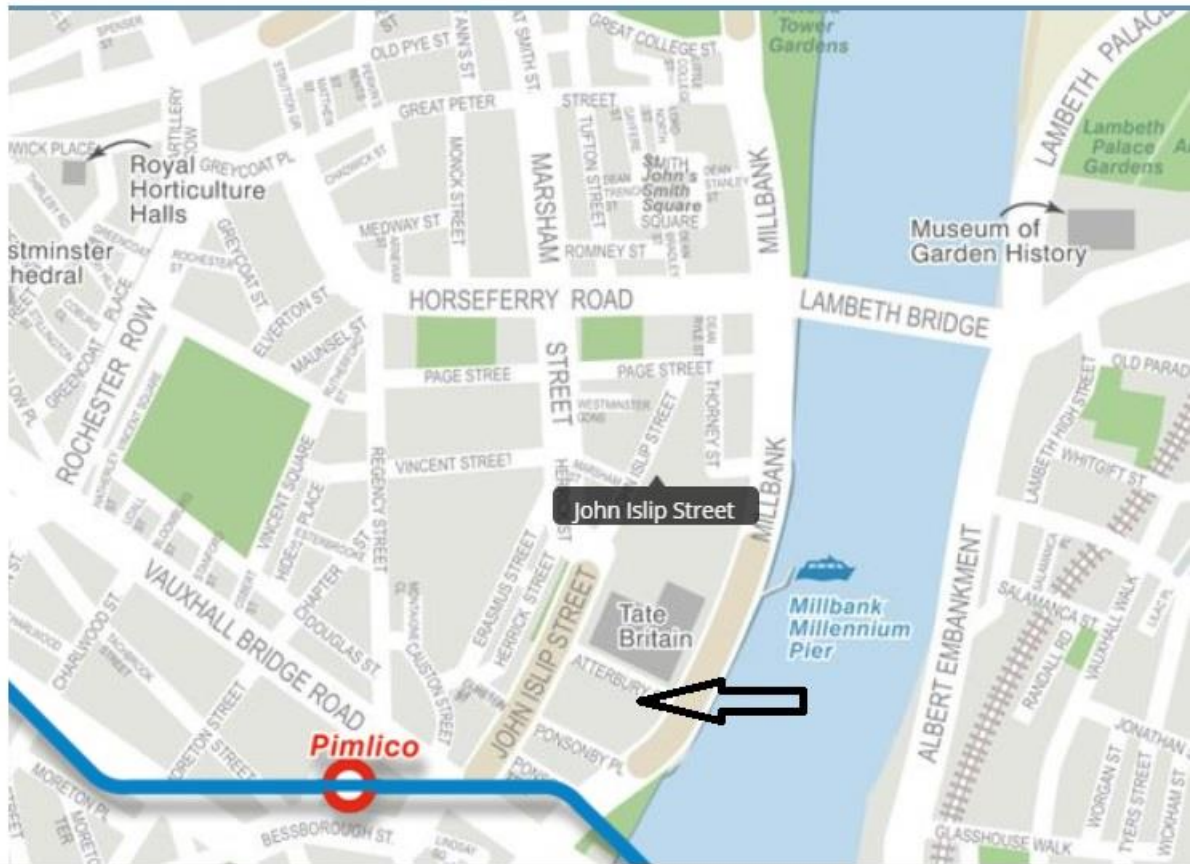
Directions for Millbank (Chelsea College of Arts, formerly the Royal Army Medical College)

The entrance to Reception is via Atterbury Street, opposite Tate Britain (arrowed on map below).

We meet for light refreshments at Reception from 1730hrs. The talk commences at 1830hrs.

Guests and non-members are very welcome. Everyone attending the talk, whether in person at Millbank or online via Zoom, is requested to register beforehand via www.friendsofmillbank.org

LondonTown.com - John Islip Street Location Map



info@friendsofmillbank.org



www.friendsofmillbank.org