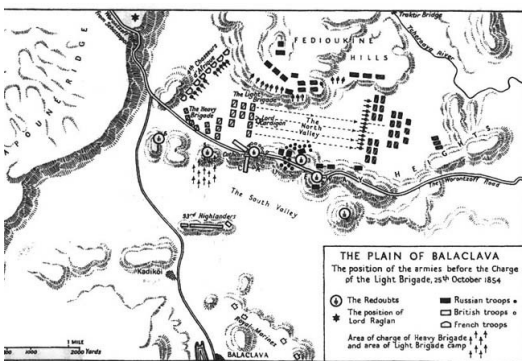


The Charge of the Light Brigade

A talk from Ruth Nobbs

Wednesday 14 April 2021 at 2pm via Zoom

(The zoom invitation will be sent out 48 hours in advance and log in will be from 1.45pm)



After forty years working as a secretary, Ruth retired in 2008 and promptly joined the u3a. Since then, she has enjoyed researching and presenting illustrated talks for her various u3a activity groups, including Military History, Industrial Heritage and Archaeology.

Although it took place more than 150 years ago, The Charge of the Light Brigade remains a topic of interest. It has been discussed in numerous books and documentaries. Ruth will look briefly at the background to the war in the Crimea before turning her attention to the specific morning in October 1854, examining the steps that led to the fateful decision, tracing the events of the charge itself and considering its aftermath and impact. It is the subject of many paintings as well as two feature films and, of course, Alfred Lord Tennyson's famous poem of the same name has helped to keep its memory alive. Ruth's husband will read out some brief extracts from Tennyson's poem during the course of the talk.

"The Charge of the Light Brigade"
Alfred Lord Tennyson

The poem presents the soldiers as a unit rather than as individuals, reinforcing the view of how honourable it is to be a part of an army with a common purpose: *Honour! the Light Brigade, / Noble Six Hundred!*

The poem is written by Tennyson at a great distance from the events depicted in the poem. This gives the poem a distant quality, although perhaps closely reflects the feelings of the people reading newspaper reports in Britain.

