

CBAE EVENTS

The **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** was scheduled for 16th May 2020, to take place at Chelmsford Museum. Unfortunately, owing to Government restrictions, the Museum is closed until further notice. At present, all meetings such as our traditional AGM are prohibited. If and when restrictions are lifted we would have to find a venue and provide due notice to members. In view of the small number of people usually attending the AGM, their possible vulnerability, and the lack of any follow-up attraction such as a tour of the area, a physical Annual General Meeting is not likely to be viable.

We have also considered a virtual meeting by Zoom; however, some members do not have appropriate technology, or have slow internet speeds which means the system does not work satisfactorily. Clearly this would enable some members, but disenfranchise others.

The Charity Commission advise that as long as the Trustees properly consider the situation and make a clear decision, they (the Commission) believe that in the present extraordinary circumstances it is permissible to not hold an AGM. The Committee have now fully considered the situation, and have decided that the AGM for 2020 should be abandoned.

Reports which would have been presented to the AGM are enclosed as a separate attachment. Hopefully these are clear, but if members have any concerns regarding the abandonment of the AGM, or have questions or comments about the reports, they are encouraged to send them to cbaeast@archaeologyuk.org. E-mails to this address are forwarded to all Committee members. We shall endeavour to provide a prompt response, and where appropriate the anonymised question and answer will be published on the website.

It is proposed that the present Committee continue in office. However, Mr David Buckley has indicated that he was intending to stand down which would leave only one representative for Essex. **We would welcome new members to the committee in general, but particularly an additional person to represent Essex.** Please do contact us at cbaeast@archaeologyuk.org.

GUIDED TOUR OF CLARE. We learnt only recently from Cotswold Archaeology Suffolk that the excavations in Clare have been postponed, probably until the spring. We hope to be able to arrange a tour for Members once the new dates are available. In the meantime, if you feel like visiting Clare there is a new Town Trail to follow. Details, with a link to a map of the Trail, are at https://www.visit-clare.co.uk/things_to_do/the-town-trail/

AUTUMN CONFERENCE. Unfortunately, faced with the uncertain situation regarding large events for the rest of the year, the Committee decided that we had to postpone the conference. We now intend to hold the conference, provisionally with the theme *Archaeology for All*, in Autumn 2021. More details in due course!

We also hope to rearrange **GUIDED TOUR OF THE BARROW CEMETERY ON THERFIELD HEATH (Royston)**. This had to be cancelled in April, but we are trying to arrange a replacement visit for April 2021.

ANGLESEY ABBEY. In the event it was decided not to run a special tour of the Anglesey Abbey dig. The National Trust was arranging regular daily tours and since we would not have been able to offer Members anything extra, we felt that you would prefer the extra flexibility of booking for a day most convenient to yourselves. Although the dig was cut short by events, encouraging progress was made, with the results available at: <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/anglesey-abbey-gardens-and-lode-mill/projects/unearthing-our-past>

Please remember to check the website for event updates: <http://cbae.archaeologyuk.org/events.2020/>

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Quite a few Members have **still** not provided us with an e-mail address. If you have received this Newsletter by post, PLEASE let us have your e-mail address at CBAEast@archaeologyuk.org. This will be used purely for contact purposes and will not be passed to other organisations.

Without a current e-mail address, you may not receive details of CBAE events.

CBA NATIONAL NEWS

Responding to the crisis, CBA has made all its **publications free to download**. This offer is only temporary, so may have finished by the time you read this. Some publications will continue to be available free via ADS. See <https://new.archaeologyuk.org/books-and-publications>.

The 2020 CBA **Festival of Archaeology** will now be taking place in two parts with a series of digital events in July and on-the-ground events in October. The first part of the Festival will take place from the **11-19 July** and will be 9 days of digital activity designed to help people explore archaeology from home. There will be a range of events including [A Day in Archaeology](#) and [Ask an Archaeologist Day](#). The second part of the Festival will run from **24 October – 1 November** and will be an opportunity to get out and discover some incredible archaeology.

More details at <https://festival.archaeologyuk.org/>.

Follow the CBA blog at <http://blog.archaeologyuk.org/>

Survey results.

The CBA recently ran a survey on communication and participation in archaeology. The aim was to gather evidence that demonstrated whether there was public demand for some of the changes and improvements the CBA would like to make to their website in support of an application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund. Almost 800 people completed the survey from a cross-section of people with all levels of interest in archaeology. The results show that people are keen for more news and content, information about careers and learning and, crucially, more ways to participate. These results show what valuable work the CBA groups do and how much potential there is to grow. You can view the initial findings on the CBA blog here:

www.bit.ly/CBASurveyresults

ONLINE TALKS AND INFORMATION

With many local lectures cancelled or postponed, Clem Cooper of **Cambridgeshire JIGSAW** has put together a list of online lectures, podcasts and other material at <https://jigsawcambs.org/news>. Once normality has returned and Clem is back at work at Oxford Archaeology East, this site will again be listing local activities in Cambridgeshire. Click on “Jigsaw Community” for a list of local groups in Cambridgeshire.

A good source of archaeology videos is **The Archaeology Channel**. Go to <https://www.archaeologychannel.org/map/> and click on the pins for reports from all over the world.

Dig Ventures has a collection of video talks at <https://digventures.com/tag/dignation/>

And perhaps the most comprehensive collection of links is from the CBA itself: <http://bit.ly/archaeohub>.

LOCAL GROUP PROFILE

We hope in each edition of the Newsletter to present a profile of one of our CBA East affiliated groups. The honour of being first goes to **CAFG**!

Cambridge Archaeology Field Group (CAFG)



Excavating at Ickleton priory June 2019.

The Group was created in 1978 by local amateurs interested in archaeology, specifically with the intention to encourage practical activities. Throughout subsequent years many different field activities have been undertaken; fieldwalking, excavating and surveying both as CAFG and joining with other groups to assist them in similar work. A bequest from one of our members has enabled us to offer a small bursary each year to a student (generally a young person) of archaeology to encourage them in their chosen studies. CAFG members normally meet once a week to go through the finds to record them and try to learn more about them. Talks which are open to all are held once a month on varying aspects of archaeology – in all these years only Covid-19 has put a stop to this!

Fieldwalking on the vast arable fields, mainly of west Cambridgeshire, has proved to be our most successful and enduring activity. During this work a number of previously unrecognised sites of pottery and flint spreads have been found leading to the identification of Mesolithic, Neolithic, Roman and Medieval activity. The Bronze and Iron Ages have been more elusive.

We have a number of ongoing projects, all currently held up by Covid-19:

Fieldwalking adjacent to the deserted medieval village of Clopton in west Cambridgeshire has recovered large quantities of medieval pottery. With the help of a grant from CBA East we are shortly to send this pottery for identification.

Another outstanding project is excavation on the site of the Benedictine priory in the village of Ickleton in south Cambridgeshire. In 2019 we opened an exploratory trench across what appeared to be significant building remains following a geophysical survey by the Archaeology RheeSearch Group. This proved to be more of a task than expected as there was a raft of large flint under the topsoil – this contained pottery dating to the 17/18th centuries along with a vast quantity of ceramic roof tile. The work to remove this in part exposed what appears to be mortared structure but time ran out. One chance find is an iron pin dated to the 9th century long before the

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priory was supposedly founded. All very tantalizing. We had expected to return in May this year but the virus has beaten us for the moment.

Two major contributions to parish histories have been in Haslingfield and Wimpole using fieldwalking, excavations and documentary research. The former resulted in an article in the *Proceedings of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society* (Vol CIV, 2015): “Change in a South Cambridgeshire parish: understanding the Bronze Age to late medieval settlement within Haslingfield” and the latter was an HLF grant supported look at the people of the hamlets of Wimpole: “Silent Voices and Deserted Homes”. The full reports of both are on the Group’s website www.cafg.net.

We are hopeful that the autumn will see us released from lockdown so that we can continue – fieldwalking is good for this as by definition we are 10m apart. It may be a bit more difficult to put people together in a trench!



Selection of finds fieldwalking Clopton, Cambridgeshire

COURSES

Traditional Building Skills

The Traditional Building Skills and Conservation Courses Programme has been designed to enable conservation and building professionals, contractors, general builders, and the owners and managers of historic buildings and sites, the opportunity to increase their knowledge and skills in the conservation management and repair of historic buildings and the wider historic environment. All courses and lectures are delivered by leading craftsmen and experts in their specialist fields.

Venue: Essex Record Office, Chelmsford

These courses have been temporarily suspended but will be reinstated or moved online as soon as possible. For full details and to register for courses, see

<https://www.placeservices.co.uk/courses/conservation/>

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CONFERENCES

Bronze age Forum

21-22 November 2020. Cambridge.

Following a very successful conference at Durham last year, this year's Bronze Age Forum is due to be hosted by Cambridge University. Full details at <https://www.baf2020cambridge.com/>

LOCAL SOCIETIES AND EVENTS

We aim to offer a selection of events hosted by local Societies in our region, with particular emphasis on organisations affiliated to CBA East. Please see individual Societies' websites for further information. Please contact the Editor at CBAE.Newsletter@archaeologyuk.org if you have material for the January Newsletter.

In view of the ongoing uncertainty regarding events, most Societies have not yet published their summer/autumn programmes. There may be changes to events which *have* been scheduled. Please check websites for up-to-date information!

In the meantime, many of the websites below have links to reports of previous archaeological activity.

ESSEX 20/20 A YEAR OF SCIENCE AND CREATIVITY

A year long, county wide celebration of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) in Essex. Many events are being organised by different groups. See <https://www.essex2020.com/news/> for the latest information.

The 2020 Marconi events in Chelmsford will be going ahead in June, but will now be online. Further details at <https://www.chelmsfordses.org.uk/>.

ALDEBURGH AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

No events currently planned. Reports of previous field activities on website.

<http://www.adlhs.org.uk/>

ARCHAEOLOGY RHEESESEARCH GROUP

An enthusiastic group of amateur archaeologists who have acquired quite a reputation for carrying out geophysical investigations using their own kit. If you are planning an excavation they may be able to help.

<http://www.rheeseearch.org.uk/>

AYLSHAM ROMAN PROJECT

<https://aylshamromanproject.com/>

COLCHESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

Meetings are held at Roman Circus House, Colchester at 7.30. See

<http://caguk.net/>

EAST HERTS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY AND BRAUGHING ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP

Lectures take place at Bengoe Parish Hall, Duncombe Rd, by Tower St, Hertford SG14 3DA at 2.30pm.

<https://www.ehas.org.uk/html/events.html>

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FEN EDGE ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP

Meetings are held in various Cambridgeshire Fen Edge locations – see individual entries.
The meetings below are currently scheduled to go ahead.

Friday 18 September

‘Medieval Settlement and Conflict on the Fen-edge’

Dr Duncan Wright (Senior Lecturer in Archaeology at Bishop Grosseteste University)

This meeting will be held at Rampton Village Hall

Thursday 15 October

Vindolanda, a Roman Fort and Community Constantly in Transition

Andrew Birley (Director of Excavations, Vindolanda Trust)

Tony Cooper Suite, Cottenham Village College. 7.30

See www.feag.co.uk. Any last minute changes will be posted on <https://feagblog.wordpress.com/>

FANE ROAD ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP (PETERBOROUGH)

Meetings take place at The Parkway Sports & Social Club, Maskew Avenue,
Peterborough, PE1 2AS. 7.00

Monday 7 September 2020

An Introduction to Peterborough HER

City Archaeologist, Rebecca Cassa-Hatton

Monday 5 October 2020

Must Farm – The Big picture

Excavation director Mark Knight (CAU)

<https://peterborougharchaeology.org/>

GREAT YARMOUTH LOCAL HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The society meets on the third Friday of the month from September to June, at 7.30pm, at Christchurch, King
Street, Great Yarmouth. <https://www.greatyarmouthlocalhistoryandarchaeology.com/meetings>

MIDDLE NENE ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

Lectures are held in Oundle Methodist Church, Drumming Well Lane, Oundle, Northamptonshire, PE8 4AA.
An ongoing excavation was planned to continue in August but may now be cancelled.

<https://www.midnag.org.uk/events.html>

NORFOLK ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL RESEARCH GROUP

Meetings take place at the UEA (Thomas Paine Lecture Theatre) at 2.30pm. See <http://www.nahrg.org.uk/>

NORFOLK AND NORWICH ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Back issues of the Society's Journal, 1846-2005, are now online. Details at <http://www.nnas.info/NABackIssues.html?fbclid=IwAR26laE5qGklZvoM2ky4BOCnqlh-A3Loaz5BQYtnemvldW7MsAxES95iqv4>

NORFOLK INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY

Meetings start at 7.30pm, on the first Thursday of the month. Venue is St. Martin at Palace Church, 15 St Martin-At-Palace Plain, Norwich NR3 1RW
<http://www.norfolkia.org.uk/diary.html>

SPALDING GENTLEMEN'S SOCIETY

The Society organises a programme of public lectures on cultural, scientific and antiquarian subjects. These have been held almost continuously since 1889.
Lectures are held on Friday evenings commencing 7.30 p.m. They take place with the kind permission of the Headmaster in the main hall of the Spalding Grammar School, Priory Road, PE11 2XH.
The Society's lecture programme for 2020-21 can be viewed at <https://www.sgsoc.org/lectures>. **At present it is intended that lectures will go ahead.**

THE SUFFOLK INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY

The Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History, founded in 1848, is Suffolk's largest and oldest archaeological and historical society.
<https://www.suffolk institute.org.uk/>

WALTHAM ABBEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Lectures on the third Fridays of September to May, at the Baptist Church, Paradise Road, Waltham Abbey EN9 1RL, 8-10pm with a refreshment break.
<http://www.walthamabbeyhistoricalsociety.org.uk/>

WELWYN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

<https://welwynarchaeologicalsociety.wordpress.com/>

WEST ESSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

Lectures take place in the Conference Room of the Woodford County High School, High Road, Woodford Green IG8 9LA on Mondays at 7:45pm unless otherwise stated.
http://www.weag.org.uk/events_main.html

WEST NORFOLK AND KING'S LYNN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Marriott's Warehouse, South Quay, King's Lynn, 7.30

Tuesday 17 November 2020

Caring for Historic Sites in the Norfolk Countryside

David Robertson

Tuesday 15 December 2020

The Breckland Palaeolithic Project

Dr Rob Davis

Tuesday 19 January 2021

The Yayoi vs the Iron Age

Dr Andrew Hutcheson

Tuesday 16 February 2021

Heritage Action Zone King's Lynn

Dr Natalie Gates

Tuesday 16 March 2021

The Decline of Pott Row and Late Medieval potteries of East Anglia

Sue Anderson

Tuesday 20 April 2021

The Open Fields of South-West Norfolk – A Midlands System in East Anglia?

Michael Medlar

http://wnklas.greyhawk.org.uk/main.php?p=lectures/meeting_programme2020.htm

COMPETITION!

Reimagining Museums for Climate Action: An International Design Competition

Reimagining Museums for Climate Action asks designers, architects, academics, artists, poets, philosophers, museum professionals and the public at large to radically (re)imagine and (re)design the museum as an institution, to help bring about more equitable and sustainable futures in the climate change era. The competition aims to explore how museums can help society transform to a low carbon future, adapt to the impacts of climate change, and safeguard ecosystems.

Eight finalists will each receive £2,500 to develop their ideas into exhibits, which will be displayed at Glasgow Science Centre ahead of and during COP26, the United Nations Climate Change conference, in 2021.

Register your interest by 31st July 2020 to submit by the final deadline of 17th September 2020.

Further information is available on the competition website www.museumsforclimateaction.org

PAGLESHAM DRY DOCK SCHEDULED

The remains of a rare 19th century dock, built to accommodate HMS *Beagle* when it was serving as a Coastguard Watch Vessel in Essex, is now protected as a nationally important site. The submerged mud berth on the River Roach near Paglesham has been designated as a Scheduled Monument. See

<https://www.itv.com/news/anglia/2020-05-11/the-remains-of-the-berth-that-docked-the-hms-beagle-in-essex-will-now-be-protected-by-historic-england/>

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TWO REQUESTS FOR HELP:

Iron Age Pellet Moulds Research: Call for Information

My name is Jake Morley-Stone. I am currently conducting research into late Iron Age pellet mould technology for my PhD at the University of Liverpool. Pellet moulds (coin moulds/ coin-flan moulds) are ceramic artefacts that have largely been associated with the production of coinage in late Iron Age Britain and on the continent, though current data regarding use and function remains open to interpretation. My research seeks to consolidate current theory and develop a rigorous methodology for analysis of these moulds and understanding them in their Iron Age context. My studies will focus on the sites at Braughing, Hertfordshire; Camulodunum, Colchester and Verulamium, St. Albans. These sites have significant bodies of contextual, historical, archaeological and geological data that can be explored in relation to their assemblages. Following their study, models of how the fragments have been interpreted will be used as a framework for assessing assemblages from other sites. Of particular interest are a close collection of sites in East Anglia: Eriswell, Haverhill, Little Cressingham, Saham Toney (Woodcock Hall), Thetford, and West Stow (a single fragment found in Anglo-Saxon context). Aside from Thetford, only a handful of fragments have been found at each site, however their close geography may give insight into how pellet mould technology was mobilised and used in late Iron Age society. I have been using the Norfolk Heritage Explorer, through www.heritage.norfolk.gov.uk, to compile data from these sites. Unfortunately the search is often limited by vague descriptions or references that are difficult to trace, meaning it can be very difficult to identify if indeed the artefact is a pellet mould or not. Site monographs are accessible, though smaller articles and reports are quite elusive. Any information or even images of finds from these sites would go a long way in furthering this research. Thank-you in advance and stay safe!

Contact Information: J.A.Morley-Stone@liverpool.ac.uk; jake.m-s@hotmail.com.



Pellet mould from Sheepen Farm, Essex. ©British Museum.

And now for something completely different:

Do you fancy a bit of Contemporary Archaeology? Dutch archaeologist Jobbe Wijnen is collecting ring-pulls. Yes, ring-pulls, and he wants your help. See <https://pulltabarchaeology.com/>



GRANTS

CBA East awards **individual grants of up to £250** in support of archaeological study. We are keen to support a broad range of activity, and particularly wish to promote education, research, public awareness and participation in archaeology in the region. The criteria are flexible and hence appropriate for individuals or newly formed groups who are seeking funding for training, help with investigation of potential sites, or informal publication of initial work. Applications from young people who live in the region are welcome. Further details at <http://cbae.archaeologyuk.org/grants/>.

Open Access Archaeology Fund.

If you wish to deposit with the Archaeological Data Service or publish an article with Internet Archaeology but have no means to pay, there is a new **Open Access Archaeology Fund**.

For more information on the fund and to apply, please see:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe0TULQcvhsCyWlwb7tlpNghisveB6jD7UnEiMpBW48Axx5Qg/viewform>

COPY FOR THE NEWSLETTER

The next newsletter is due to be published in January 2021. Please send items for inclusion to CBAE.Newsletter@archaeologyuk.org **by the end of November**.