The Future of Local Societies: Their Role in the 21st Century

Winter General Meeting 2013
2-3 March, York
HEFA and beyond:
Community engagement, young people and local societies
Dr Carenza Lewis
HEFA

Making discoveries about the past

Developing skills and confidence in the present

Raising aspirations for the future
Investigation of currently occupied rural settlements
HEFA 2009 & 2010
"I feel more positive about staying at school after Year 11"

No. of students

Strongly Agree
Agree
Neither Agree nor Disagree
Disagree
Strongly Disagree
HEFA 2009 & 2010
"I feel more positive about going to college/university"

- Strongly Agree: 500
- Agree: 200
- Neither Agree nor Disagree: 100
- Disagree: 10
- Strongly Disagree: 10

No. of students
HEFA Feedback

HEFA 2012

"I feel more positive about going to college/university after Year 13"

No. of students

Strongly Agree | Agree | Neither Agree nor Disagree | Disagree | Strongly Disagree
‘AWESOME!’ JM (Coddenham 2010)

‘I would love to do a similar experience again.’ AL (Chediston 2010)

‘Thanks for the wicked experience.’ MT (Little Hallingbury 2010)

‘LOVED IT ALL!!! It was the greatest experience of my life.’ CD-K (Chediston 2010)

‘It was really fun! Thank you for a great time.’ EH (Carleton Rode 2010)

‘It’s given me inspiration to go to University. Thanks!’ SN (Chediston 2010)
From Staff

“The course is an excellent opportunity for students to learn and develop such a range of skills; respect for others and surroundings, confidence to ‘have a go’, communicate with everybody they work with, interest in new information, plus more discreet qualities; leadership, following instructions” Mrs J, West Mersea

‘HEFA was a brilliant experience for the pupils, they learnt so much and we all enjoyed the three days immensely. The Academy certainly fulfilled its central purpose of engaging them with the future possibilities of further study in HE. Conversations with pupils afterwards reflected the significant impact that the academy has had on their attitudes and perceptions of HE. They have certainly been encouraged by the excavations and the visit to Cambridge to consider the possible opportunities that HE can offer them in the next few years. Their horizons have been widened and university study is now much more real to them.’ JW Little Hallingbury

‘As a teacher from a close to ‘special measures’ school, that hardly ever allows students trips, this exercise has massively impacted on student expectations of themselves, their closest university, and their capacity and inclination to aim higher in the future. For them – thank you.’ DJ, Houghton
Great Shelford 2006-8

Test pits containing pottery dating to 1st century – 4th century

Disturbed levels
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more

Undisturbed levels
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more
Great Shelford 2006-8
Test pits containing pottery dating to mid 9th century – mid 11th century

Disturbed levels
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more

Undisturbed levels
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more
Great Shelford 2006-8

Test pits containing pottery dating to mid 11th century – end 14th century
Disturbed levels
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more

Undisturbed levels
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more

Great Shelford 2006-8
Test pits containing pottery dating to 15th century – mid 16th century
Disturbed levels
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more

Undisturbed levels
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more

Great Shelford 2006-8
Test pits containing pottery dating to mid 16th century – end 18th century
Great Shelford 2006-8

Test pits containing pottery dating to the 19th century

Great Shelford

Disturbed levels
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more

Undisturbed levels
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more
Carleton Rode 2007-10

Test pits containing pottery dating to late 1st century BC – 1st century AD
Disturbed levels
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more

Undisturbed levels
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more

Carleton Rode 2007-10
Test pits containing pottery dating to mid 1st – 5th century AD
Carleton Rode 2007-10

Test pits containing pottery dating to mid 5th – 8th century AD

Disturbed levels
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more

Undisturbed levels
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more
Disturbed levels
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more

Undisturbed levels
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more

Carleton Rode 2007-10
Test pits containing pottery dating to mid 9th – mid 11th century AD
Disturbed levels
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more

Undisturbed levels
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more

Carleton Rode 2007-10
Test pits containing pottery dating to mid 11\textsuperscript{th} – end 14\textsuperscript{th} century
Disturbed levels
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more

Undisturbed levels
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more

Test pits containing pottery dating to 15th – mid 16th century AD
Carleton Rode 2007-10

Test pits containing pottery dating to mid 16th – end 18th century AD
Carleton Rode 2007-10

Test pits containing pottery dating to 19th century AD

Disturbed levels
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more

Undisturbed levels
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more
Local Societies and HEFA

Local societies provide:

- Sites to dig
- Logistical coordination
- Local knowledge
- Hospitality (optional!)

Local societies gain:

- New archaeological knowledge about their area
- New skills and knowledge
- New contacts in archaeology and local schools
- New ideas and focus for future projects
- Satisfaction of helping and being ‘relevant’
Wider involvement of Local Societies in HEFA
Cambridge Archaeology Project

An innovatory educational programme for GCSE History, developed by Access Cambridge Archaeology at the University of Cambridge.

Cambridge Archaeology Project is an exciting learning programme bringing GCSE History alive in which pupils carry out their own original two-day archaeological excavations, organised and supervised by the University of Cambridge, into a local historic site which is the subject of pupils' detailed study within and beyond the classroom.

During a term of study in school before and/or after their excavation, pupils learn about the history of the excavated site and others like it and use their own archaeological discoveries alongside other historical sources to reconstruct the historic development of the site.

This programme can be undertaken by pupils as part of the Schools History Project (SHP) GCSE courses in the local history unit (History Around Us).

“All in all, this was one of the best things I’ve ever done”
(DH, pupil, Norfolk)

“This experience can only make your students more motivated and better historians”
(RK, history teacher, Suffolk)
Pirton’s 104 test pits 2007 - 2011

PIRTON Test Pit Locations
2007 (Green), 2008 (Blue),
2009 (Yellow), 2010 (Purple) & 2011 (Orange)
Test pits containing neolithic pottery (4000-1500 BC)

**Disturbed levels**
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more

**Undisturbed levels**
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more
Pirton 2007-11
Test pits containing Bronze Age pottery (1500-700 BC)

Disturbed levels
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more

Undisturbed levels
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more

Test pits containing Bronze Age pottery (1500-700 BC)
Pirton 2007-11

Test pits containing Iron Age pottery
(700 BC – AD 43)

Disturbed levels

- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more

Undisturbed levels

- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more

N
Test pits containing pottery dating to 1st – mid 5th century AD.
Disturbed levels
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more

Undisturbed levels
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more

Pirton 2007-11
Test pits containing pottery dating to mid 5th – mid 9th century AD

N
Test pits containing pottery dating to mid 9\textsuperscript{th} – mid 11\textsuperscript{th} century AD
Test pits containing pottery dating to mid 11th – end 14th century
Test pits containing pottery dating to 15\textsuperscript{th} – mid 16\textsuperscript{th} century

- Disturbed levels
  - 1 sherd 4g or less
  - 1 sherd 5g or more
  - 2-4 sherds
  - 5 sherds or more

- Undisturbed levels
  - No pottery
  - 1 sherd 4g or less
  - 1 sherd 5g or more
  - 2-4 sherds
  - 5 sherds or more
Disturbed levels
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more

Undisturbed levels
- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more

Pirton 2007-11
Test pits containing pottery dating to mid 16th – end 18th century AD
Disturbed levels

- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more

Undisturbed levels

- 1 sherd 4g or less
- 1 sherd 5g or more
- 2-4 sherds
- 5 sherds or more

Pirton 2007-11
Test pits containing pottery dating to the 19th century
Community Archaeology projects

Dig for your own new archaeological discoveries in gardens, playgrounds and other open unscheduled land anywhere in Clare and help piece together a new history of the village!

All ages welcome, no previous experience necessary
32% of participants had **not** previously been on trips to historic sites or museums (cf 26% CMS)
81% of participants had **not** previously taken part in an archaeological dig (cf 87% CMS)
50% of participants had **not** previously taken part in any archaeological activities before (cf 53% CMS)
94% rated the test pit digging as excellent or good
Clare Community Test Pit Digging 2011
"I will take more interest in archaeology & heritage more generally in future"

77% agreed or strongly agreed
Clare Community Test Pit Digging 2011

"Would you recommend this activity to others?"

92% responded ‘yes’!
CLARE COMMUNITY TEST PIT DIGGING

'A valuable and interesting two days. Hard work but amazing insight into the history of a place I have known all my life. The excitement of maybe finding a connection with the past is truly amazing and the conversations that my group had were delightful. My teenage children joined in at stages and had that spark of interest we as parents are grateful for!'
HH, Haverhill

'It's great fun for all ages and we fully enjoyed the whole experience, can't wait for the results! More please! We are even considering joining the Clare Historical & Archaeological Society - see what you've done?!!?!!'
AR & GR, Clare
One project leads to another...
Test Pit Dig Today
Please come in and find out what is happening
Cascading skills for the future
Cambridge Community Heritage

Digging deeper, learning more.
Making the most of tomorrow comes from understanding the past.

Community history and archaeology at the University of Cambridge extends research networks beyond academia as individuals, groups and schools collaborate with university experts.

Advancing knowledge through archaeological excavation, heritage fieldwork, documentary research and oral history, exploring, unearthing and recording new discoveries.

Communities are enriched as people make new discoveries, forge connections, develop skills and gain new perspectives on their surroundings and the wider world.
Reconstructing lost village histories
Eastern Region of England showing UC CORS sites
Late Anglo-Saxon and High Medieval pottery yields compared

Mid C9th-mid C11th - percentage of excavated pits producing 2+ sherds pottery

Mid C11th - mid-C14th - percentage of excavated pits producing 2+ sherds pottery
High medieval and late medieval pottery yields compared (23+ pits, 2+ sherds)
Sites with 23+ pits excavated (1,038 pits)

High medieval - Percentage of excavated pits with 2+ sherds pottery (mid-C11th-mid-C14th)
Sites with 23+ pits excavated (1,038 pits)

Late medieval - Percentage of excavated pits with 2+ sherds pottery (late-C14th - mid C16th)
Dear Carenza,

As one of the eight editors of the Hadleigh & Thundersley Community Archive, I was thrilled to receive a copy of your email…. I haven't spoken to all of the other editors yet, but as three of us belong to the local archaeology group, you can imagine the excitement!
What an agreeable surprise to hear from your Carenza! It is a great coincidence that what you are proposing fits with several projects and ideas we, the Odiham Society, wish to develop:

• We wish to make our history more relevant to our local schools and stimulate interest - which you could do! I was born and live in North Warnborough so am keen but have little expertise in these matters.

• A North Warnborough family has two sons in their twenties who are both qualified and working archaeologists who would be keen to help or do something complementary to sustain interest.

• I know lots of people with gardens that would be excited to help. Also owners of fields in North Warnborough that are likely to hold clues to the past.

• Roberth Mays at Odiham is a very good secondary school and has a catchment of 100 sq miles, including a host of adjacent and nearby parishes.

• My daughter teaches at Brighton Hill School in Basingtoke; she teaches PE and Maths, but she and others are keen to expand horizons.

• We have several events planned for 2015 and hope to include a larger archaeological dig here - which might discover something, but is intended to be available for children and others to visit and see how a professional dig is undertaken. That would make a great follow on from your scheme.
Dear Carenza,

Following your "Reeth Lecture" this summer during the Swaledale Festival, we had an email exchange about a possible test-pit digging project in Reeth…. This is now a formal SWAAG project as part of our LEADER-funded "The Swaledale Project: 7000 Years of a Valley and its People", with a target commencement in spring/summer 2013.

We have the support of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, who sees this as a useful way of furthering knowledge about Reeth before the laying out of the Green following the grant of a market charter in 1695…. SWAAG is a sort of "force-multiplier" in Swaledale. We also have agreement in principle from Reeth Parish Council, who administer the Green and who have to waive the prohibition on "digging and delving" on public land (a relic of lead-mining days)… and they have agreed to host a Public Meeting to launch it.

In your email to Alan, you listed the sort of considerations we should address in developing the Project. In response, we will manage this as a SWAAG Project, with professional supervision with a Project Design master document cleared with the National Park and whoever we appoint as professional supervisor(s)….We have a budget for SWAAG activities in 2013… in which the test-pit project will be included. We intend to apply for HLF funding from 2014 onwards, but we will raise funds somehow. We will produce reports to professional standard.
I’ve talked about local society involvement in:

HEFA
Community projects
CAP
CCH
Research dividend
The future for local societies…

Making new discoveries
Fostering skills, Boosting confidence, Raising aspirations
Building and supporting communities and schools
Protecting archaeology by giving it a role
Thanks to Aimhigher, HEFCE, University of Cambridge, English Heritage, HLF, Arts Council England and all the students, volunteers and residents who have given so generously of their time, energy, property, tea and cakes....
www.arch.cam.ac.uk/aca/

www.accesscambridgearchaeology.wordpress.com