The role of local societies in the 21st century: Discussion outcomes

A 2008 Council for British Archaeology (CBA) survey of community archaeology recorded over 2,000 active local groups, with over 200,000 individual members between them. Local societies have been seen as the bedrock of archaeology and active participation within the voluntary sector continues to grow.

In March 2013, the CBA facilitated a UK-wide forum for volunteer and community groups with the aim of stimulating debate on the role of the voluntary sector in archaeology in the 21st century.

Over 40 societies and community groups participated in the forum, with live streaming and social media encouraging wider engagement during the event. Many non-attending groups expressed an interest in future opportunities to share ideas and good practice.

Opportunities arising from the public demand for archaeology and digital communications, and threats from cuts to professional services and education all bring increasing scope for societies and community groups to make a significant contribution to archaeology protection, provision and participation at the local level.

Many of these issues were explored during the forum and this discussion paper presents the outcomes for wider dissemination, consideration and feedback.

You can also view presentations and videos and social media comments from the Forum on our website.

Archaeology groups are encouraged to join the discussion and complete the response form on our Societies’ Forum web page or request a printed copy from: CBA, St Mary’s House, 66 Bootham, York, YO30 7BZ.

Go to: www.archaeologyUK.org/future-of-societies-forum

1. Forum aims

The origins of the Council for British Archaeology are closely linked to the county archaeological and historical societies, who were a prime force behind the setting
up of the CBA in 1944 to safeguard the historic environment in the years following the Second World War.

The CBA has evolved to become the lead body representing the public interest in archaeology. Working with our network of CBA Groups and partners across the UK, we provide a voice for societies and the voluntary sector in government and at the local level.

Through the forum and follow up discussions, the CBA aims to open up a dialogue with local societies so we can work more closely together to sustain their future and the future of archaeology in the UK.

The forum aimed to:
- Celebrate the diversity and dynamism of the UK’s archaeology groups
- Demonstrate support for the sustainability of societies
- Facilitate discussion and debate on evolution and future direction
- Inform societies of the challenging UK outlook for archaeology and the impact voluntary groups can make
- Initiate two-way dialogue to inform UK-wide strategies for archaeology and activity on the ground
- Share innovation and good practice and showcase different roles
- Debate common issues to suggest solutions
- Raise awareness of the crucial role that volunteers can play in campaigning, influencing and support for archaeology through local planning frameworks and stewardship
- Consider how societies can meet the demand for hands-on participation
- Encourage networking and collaboration at the forum and beyond.

2. Case studies

Presentations by:
- Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society (LAHS) - Marilyn Palmer
- Ulster Archaeological Society (UAS) – Duncan Berryman
- Bingham Heritage Trail Association (BHTA) – Geoff Ashton

These presentations are published on the CBA’s website at: www.archaeologyUK.org/future-of-societies-forum
and are available to view at youtube.com/user/CBAWGM

Social media posts on these presentations included:

LAHS also produces Leicestershire Historian as well as Journal balance between academic and more popular publication
LAHS has good link with University of Leicester Archaeological Unit: help from students, digitised older journals

Ulster archaeological survey group are part of Ulster Archaeological Society

Ulster Archaeology Society: Does your society do surveys and excavations? How do you publish reports? Do you have impact?

Bingham: tap into local funding opportunities, town councils, local charities, etc

BHTA local group using local partnerships & a holistic approach to researching and promoting the heritage of Bingham

Bingham ran garden pits project lots of interest, brought in primary schools

Bingham Heritage Trail: Going out into the community brings all sorts of help for societies from unexpected places!

Raising question of focussing on children and bringing in their parents to active participation

Seems to be assumption that 25-50 yr olds more or less lost to local societies. How do we tackle the age gap in active participants?

Follow #archaeologyUK Twitter feeds on these presentations online at: https://storify.com/archaeologyuk/cba-winter-general-meeting

3. Panel discussion: What is the relevance of local societies today?

- Marilyn Palmer (Leicester Archaeological and Historical Society)
- David Stocker (Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology, Lincoln Record Society, Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire)
- Duncan Berryman (Ulster Archaeological Society)
- Eila Macqueen (Director, Archaeology Scotland)
- Frances Lynch (Anglesey Antiquarian Society, Cambrian Archaeological Association)
- Peter Addyman (York Civic Trust, York Philosophical Society, York Museums Trust, Yorkshire Archaeological Society, Pontefract & District Archaeological Society)

‘Diversity of local societies across the UK is a positive thing - long may it continue!’
‘Societies are flourishing. In the UK we continue to do them extremely well and they have always been one of our strengths.’

‘Societies can bring together the results of fieldwork, play a key role in publishing and recording, and give a context.’

‘Do the county societies have a problem in the world of local community groups?’

‘Local societies need support from professional organisations.’

‘Societies need active members to ensure survival and evolution. Many people are reluctant to join admin and organising committees.’

‘UK societies are evolving, they are not what they were 150 years ago.’

‘Society has changed not just societies. Do people want to go to lectures anymore?’

‘How can we more effectively share enthusiasm of new community groups with expertise and support of County Societies?’

‘Each society has its own purpose, understand that and focus on it, don’t try and do it all.’

‘In Scotland a national coordinating campaign brings societies and local communities together. Local societies can engage with schools through initiatives such as Curriculum for Excellence and the Lanarkshire pilot. They can take on stewardship through Adopt a Monument scheme.’

‘Societies are alive and flourishing around the UK. Consensus is strength in diversity and partnerships are the way forward.’

**4. Keynote presentation – Rosemary Cramp**

**The value of societies: past, present and future**

‘In the 19th century, the majority of archaeology societies were clerics and lawyers. A very different demographic to today.’

‘Local societies should be proud of never overlooking the relevance of volunteering’

‘Today, extra mural and training courses are often prohibitively expensive to the majority.’
‘People often only join a society if there is an activity. Roman site at Binford was a community project.’

‘At Durham I was encouraged to join all three local societies. Is that the rule at universities today? It should be.’

‘In the 1960s the established skills of societies were often overlooked by the new skills of units.’

‘Societies must maintain a breadth of interest in the past, with a reservoir of talent that can be used - an inherent knowledge of their regions.’

‘We live in a world full of facts, turning these into knowledge is the challenge.’

‘Local societies must retain and respond to the breadth of interest in the past’

‘The growth of professional archaeology and transregional units breaks with local societies who have deep local knowledge’

‘What should societies do to engage with the people who don’t want to go to lectures but are interested in the past?’

‘How do we maintain togetherness in our societies? It is something we have to work on.’

‘We need to share our knowledge of our past in the present and societies can help us do that.’

‘Societies are a bastion of commonsense in an age of information fragmentation.’

‘Societies can play a role in advocacy. The CBA Groups can relay threats to heritage locally back to the CBA at the centre.’

‘Never before have we had the chance to influence our regional and national heritage. We’ve survived the last 100 years and will continue to reshape our roles.’

5. Breakout discussion: SWOT analysis for local societies

Facilitators: Eila Macqueen, Mike Heyworth, Marilyn Palmer, Helen Macclagan

Strengths:
- Pedigree/survival!
- Publishers: journal of record/REF points for academics
• Way into archaeology
• Impactful
• Range of activities/diversity of interests
• Local focus and knowledge
• Vigilance - buildings/monitoring local threats
• Advocacy - threats to funding
• Localism opportunity (votes)
• Willing commitment to a defined area - parish/county
• Gateway to local knowledge
• Building local identity/sense of place
• People development and supplying knowledge
• Networking and developing local talent
• National specialist societies stronger with local links
• Harness local funding
• Catalyst for other funding (HLF)
• May have own funding for research (bequests)
• Lectures are platform for dissemination and social interaction
• Can offer different levels of commitment/involvement
• Opportunities for fieldwork/hands-on participation
• Knowledge-sharing opportunities
• Library/archives supporting research
• Custodians of local heritage
• Wellbeing through active engagement in communities
• Coordinating enthusiasm
• Custodians of local heritage, support local libraries, museums

Weaknesses

People:
• Shortage of suitable ‘doers’ and leaders/officers
• Control freaks/selectivity - potential to splinter
• Individual specialists’ bias
• Passive majority
• Lack of engagement
• Lack of leadership progression/risk
• Narrow viewpoint
• Lack of diversity: age/ethnicity/socio-demographic/abilities
• Older demographic limits appeal/old fashioned?

Resources:
• Costs of outputs/archives/storage
• Funding
• Uptake of grants
• Competition
• Skills
• Equipment
Knowledge:
- Knowledge transfer/succession
- Training
- Follow-through and recording of knowledge
- Potential damage to finite resource - ill-directed enthusiasm

Communication:
- Silos
- Lack of social media knowledge - channel selection
- Need for publicity and awareness - pitching
- Competition/replication

Opportunities
- Community cohesion and collaboration - non heritage partners
- Partnerships with smaller societies
- Cross-generational
- Advocacy potential
- Sense of belonging
- Enablement - knowledge transfer
- Evangelism - adding ‘archaeology’ to heritage
- Adult education with fun
- Recognition of competence
- New technology
- Fundable activities (sponsors/HLF)
- Training
- Pooled skills
- Partnerships

Threats
- Technology
- Publishing costs - member nos
- Declining numbers of members
- Funding competition
- Declining membership
- ‘Sexier’ fieldwork groups
- Funders perception of risk
- Cuts to funding of non-social projects/local authorities
- Recession and costs - fuel/keeping subscriptions low/high or low member numbers
- Courses not locally relevant
- Cost of courses
- Access to courses
- OFSTED approval for courses
- Lectures not family friendly
- Tension between professionals and volunteers
- Jobless archaeologists providing services
• Raising subscriptions offputting
• Range of benefits enough?
• Poor relations/rivalry with other local organisations and societies
• Have failing societies run their course?

Social media posts included:

How can we create a national offer for engagement in archaeology from our local diversity?

Diversity, partnerships, skills and knowledge were the buzzwords at #archaeologyUK forum day 1.

6. The outlook for UK archaeology – Mike Heyworth, Director, CBA

• Bleak outlook for archaeology in current climate despite public interest
• Local authority cuts: salami slicing cannot be sustained
• Impact at local authority level is alarming, loss of quality expert advice to planning authorities
• Some local authorities have no archaeological advice and scheduled monuments at risk
• We are expecting to see a substantial reduction in number of professional archaeologists across the country over next few years
• Gloomy predictions for local authorities in next few years will have a big impact on archaeological provision
• Higher Education research under pressure with more cuts anticipated
• There is a reduction in the number of students taking up archaeology, more departments to close over next 5–10 years
• Archaeological societies can be local champions for archaeology where there are ‘black holes’ in planning services
• Planning importance of residents/ electorate

What could societies’ response be?

• Can we mobilise the huge public support for archaeology?
• Can we use the power of the electorate to mitigate the effects of the cuts?
• Can collaboration between the voluntary sector, professional sector and national bodies position heritage in the planning system and elsewhere to make the case for archaeology?
• Can we look wider and work with cultural heritage, campaigning and environment/nature sectors groups to access good practice and frameworks?
7. Panel discussion: local advocacy for national impact

- Julian Richards (archaeologist, television presenter and author, Founder: Friends of Ancient Monuments and What’s Under Your School, CBA Wessex)
- Carenza Lewis (archaeologist, television presenter ‘Time Team’, Higher Education Field Academy)
- Duncan Berryman (Ulster Archaeological Society)
- Eila Macqueen (Director, Archaeology Scotland)
- Frances Lynch (Anglesey Antiquarian Society, Cambrian Archaeological Association)

How does regional advocacy have an impact?
How can societies take on local advocacy?
Can we learn from societies who do advocacy successfully?

Is advocacy a role for local societies? It’s a vast amount of work if we are to replace full time professional conservation staff who are already overstretched. It’s scary.

Anglesey Archaeological Society took on stewardship as their original role post war in 1911. They don’t see it as their core role today.

Volunteers filling professional gaps can work if there’s a good personal relationship, but we have to look at what is realistic - it’s personal.

Advocacy networks work successfully in Scotland.

The CBA are looking to develop tools and staffing resource to coordinate local advocacy so societies can play a key role in this vital area.

Should we build alliances with CPRE groups who have highly effective advocacy experience?

Can we build partnerships and networks outside the archaeology sector to campaign for local heritage?

Selected comments:

- Duncan Berryman, UAS: Northern Ireland is devolving to create 11 new local authorities. It will be interesting to see whether how archaeology is reflected in the planning system follows the English model.
- Bristol and Gloucestershire: battled against cuts in conservation, but with no success. All 11 of the county archaeology team are going. Now looking
to partner with voluntary organisations to provide some of the services that county archaeologists provide.

- York, Redcar/Cleveland Society undertake stewardship of Gisborough Priory but with no cooperation from their local authority and some resistance from English Heritage. Local authorities sometimes have a distrust of voluntary group intervention despite potential for increasing visitors.
- John Baumber of Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society's Buildings & Monuments Committee, a listed building casework agent for the CBA responding on their behalf: pick your battles and you are more likely to win. It’s taken 3 years of effort, but the authority now listens to us, we work with county archaeologists and planners.
- Don Cooper of CBA London and Hendon Society: the archaeology services provided by English Heritage in London are cut to two people across the capital. Barnet Council says heritage is not their problem.

8. Breakout discussion: value of partnerships in challenging times

Facilitators: Marilyn Palmer, Carenza Lewis, Julian Richards, Sian Jones

How can partnerships make a difference?
Who are the partners with the most potential?
Which activities benefit from partnerships?

Group 1:
- Build relationships with councils
- Lots of small societies with no parent support
- Councils and larger organisations can supply negative pressure
- Provide a hub for local heritage groups
- Broadening of viewpoints
- Funding potential – diversification of opportunities
- PR/lobbying role
- Cultivate relationships with the media
- Councillors happy to take credit for archaeologists with public interest
- Training expertise/contacts

Group 2:
**Potential partners:**
- Friends’ groups
- Parish councils
- Civic societies
- Local history societies
- Special interest groups
- County councils/borough councils
How can they help?
- Eyes and ears in the local community
- Using new media to inform advocacy?
- Local newspapers/journalists
- School pupils

Difficulties:
- Don’t like lobbying
- Age profile
- Lack of time
- Lack of trained people

Group 3:
Two types:
- Brief project
- Ongoing partnership

Benefits:
- Reach a wider audience
- Spreading resource load

Which partnerships?
- Town councils
- English Heritage
- National Trust
- Mills Group
- CPRE
- Period Partnership
- Planning officers
- National Coal Board
- PAS
- Civic societies
- Civic Voice
- Amenity and special interest societies
- Local history societies

Knowledge sources:
- Universities/libraries
- HER
- Specialist advice

Important partnerships:
- Joint events/conferences leading to joint publications and funding
- Network groups
- EMIAC
• Coordination
• Schools

Group 4:

**Who?**
- What do you do if there is no interest?
- Civic societies (urban)
- CPRE (rural)
- Parish councils (urban/rural)
- Local history/archaeology groups
- Councillors
- Heritage champions
- Strategic planners
- Local HER
- Record
- Tourist boards

**What?**
- What type of partnerships?
- What are they going to achieve?
- Specific aims need to be clearly defined

**How?**
- Can they make a difference?
- There are dangers in partnerships: potential conflict from the P.O.V. of the professional and the amateur groups

**Commonalities of interest:**
- RSPB
- National Trust
- Natural England
- Local media – NB Who is the CBA?

**9. Breakout discussion: publications and the digital age**

Facilitators: Chris Scarre, Marilyn Palmer, Peter Olver, Sian Jones

Do members want a journal?
Do people want a digital version?

Types of publications/communications offered annually:
- journal plus newsletters x 1, 2 or occasional
- annual transactions x 2
- info sheets x 4
- electronic papers (peer review)
- online forum

Content
- Content balance and audience - popular, browsable articles and scholarly
- Members want short reports not field reports - value to subscribers
- Written ‘for’ not ‘at’ members
- Outlet for members to publish their work
- Requirement to publish excavation reports
- Local info focus?
- Fill gaps in local markets?
- Society research or round up of other groups?
- Academic/professional or community focus?
- Technical requirements/support for volunteers writing
- Getting members to send in articles
- Synthetic articles?

Digital media and communications:
- How far should we go with digital?
- Need for both digital and print
- Levels of detail required - short reports on web or full reports?
- Archiving of printed copies for posterity
- Digitise back issues (can be done via Archaeology Data Service) - copyright?
- Explore print on demand?
- Loss of info if digital copies are modified
- Print read more diligently?
- Publish technical aspects of reports online for reference – grey literature library via OASIS/ADS
- Publish summaries on website
- Online publications also need editing
- Disenfranchising through digital version - how many? what percentage?
- Newsletters tensions: email (access?) vs. hard copy (costs of postage)
- Extra value - print and digital can be complimentary
- Digital media can still prove unpopular
- Does open access force digital route?
- Membership only areas and controlled access

Costs:
- Costs vs. membership income (£40/page for developer funded reports)
- Cost to producer vs. consumer
- Costs vs. production values and quality
- Postage is key contributor to costs
- Group franking machines reduce cost of postage
- Communicate costs to members/raise fees with journals
- Hand delivery on local level
- Shop around for new print quotes
- Desktop publishing by groups helps costs
- Use of publishers to save costs vs. loss of income (e.g. Maney/CBA)
- Will journals vanish with decline in funding from commercial units?
- Editing costs should be considered and other paid staff
- Seek sponsorship from local print companies
- Include advertisements?
- Fewer copies can still be viable
- What are the sharing opportunities?

Selected social media comments:

Discussion on evolving publications from the voluntary sector: digital potential? Targeting broader audiences? accessibility vs. costs?

CBA Yorkshire estimates that only 50% of their members have email. Does digital media disenfranchise current demographics?

How many people miss out if journals are all digital? Postage costs are potentially crippling to many societies.

Will digital media stand the test of time? Digital archives need maintenance. Is there a risk of losing access to archives?

Broadband access is still an issue for publications going digital.

Digital or print publication? County Societies are the publishers. The key is what our members want.

Open access journals increase interaction and awareness, but then what do members get for their money?

Digital archival good practice is vital.

What makes a 'real' publication? Surely it is the peer review/quality assurance process rather than print/digital choice.

10. **Keynote presentation – Carenza Lewis**

**HEFA and beyond: community engagement, young people and local societies**

Cambridge Community Heritage projects encourage research networks beyond academia as individuals, groups and schools collaborate with university experts.
Carenza talked about local societies developing community archaeology fieldwork projects, such as test pitting to:

- Make new discoveries
- Foster skills, boost confidence, raise aspirations for new audiences
- Build and support communities and schools
- Protect archaeology by giving it a role

The Odiham Society talks about the value of Carenza’s test pitting approach to engage communities:

‘We wish to make our history more relevant to our local schools and stimulate interest – which you could do!’

‘A local 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.’

‘Robert 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 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.’

A comment from the community test pit digging in Clare, Suffolk shows how fieldwork can stimulate further interest in archaeology:

‘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 and Archaeological Society.’

This presentation is published on the CBA’s website at: www.archaeologyUK.org/future-of-societies-forum and is available to view at youtube.com/user/CBAWGM

### 11. Keynote presentation – Julian Richards

**What’s Under Your School: hands-on history for the whole community**
Initial research with schools indicated that 15 would be interested in taking part in an archaeology project, focusing on problem-solving and practical skills to investigate questions and issues about the history of their school and community.

The Dorset-based project partnered with CBA Wessex and secured funding from a private sponsor. A total of 36 primary and 2 secondary schools took part.

‘This is the sort of thing, working with schools and then branching out into the community, that societies could do.’

A What’s Under Your School website will offer resources for societies wishing to work with schools:
- Timeline
- How to recognise finds
- How to read buildings
- Landscape detectives
- Indoor dig
- Excavations
- Pottery making and firing
- Replicas
- Training
- Whole project

This presentation is published on the CBA’s website at: www.archaeologyUK.org/future-of-societies-forum and is available to view at youtube.com/user/CBAWGM

12. Breakout discussion: working with young people

Facilitators: Tara-Jane Sutcliffe, Julian Richards

What opportunities are there for societies to work with young people?

Group 1:

**Opportunities**
- Chances to dig
- Ethnicity (not their history). Inclusion. Rural? Inner city?
- Types of involvement
- Working with schools
- CBA connecting to the Young Archaeologists’ Club branches
- Including the parents
- Other children’s groups, Scouts/Brownies/Guides
- Training (knowing the rules)

**Threats:**
• Fear of working with children - responsibility, first aid, insurance, parental permission, CRB checks
• Using the right words

Group 2:
**Young audiences:**
• Special needs children - sensory experience, digs at Temple Newsom
• Youngsters in trouble - young roots project, building drystone walls etc.
• Cubs, Scouts, Beavers - stone carving
• Kids in museums
• East Sussex project on round houses in schools

**Opportunities:**
• HLF funding for projects
• Wy emphasis on disability/disadvantage
• Finding driven - disconnect
• School is the route into the village/suburb
• School does Health & Safety
• Local project: small scale
• Volunteers are already running projects
• Skills sets in community
• Associate with community archaeologist

13. **Breakout discussion: research and fieldwork**

Facilitators: Carenza Lewis, Pete Connelly

Should societies be doing more to meet the public demand for hands–on participation?

• Societies can be local mentors to professionals in research and fieldwork
• Fieldwork engages schools and parents
• Society research contributes to knowledge and archives
• Contribute diversity to research
• Lack of time an issue
• Opportunities include YAC/allotment projects/test pits/monuments at risk
• 8/13 societies in one group did fieldwork - only 6 people were aware of English Heritage’s research frameworks
• One-to-one work with professionals and city archaeologists
• More knowledge and dissemination needed by professions

14. **Case study: communications**

Laura Joyner, Wessex Archaeology: Engagement through social media
Project Florence, run by contracting unit, Wessex Archaeology, harnessed a number of communication channels to encourage public engagement. These included:

- Posters
- Web page
- Facebook page
- Twitter feed @WAFlorence
- Blog
- Video and podcasts
- Roadshows
- Making a movie project with students

Which method had the most impact?

- Blogs: Over 2000 views, over 400 watches of YouTube videos, over 1800 downloads of podcasts
- Twitter: 287 followers
- Facebook: 1,058
- Roadshow: spoke to 535 people
- Make a movie project: over 80 people attended the premiere, 500 copies of the DVD given away, over 750 watches on YouTube channel alone.

This presentation is published on the CBA’s website at: www.archaeologyUK.org/future-of-societies-forum and is available to view at youtube.com/user/CBAWGM

Selected social media comments:

Facebook lets societies work with members over the netscape. You can get hundreds of virtual members in a matter of weeks.

Laura Joyner (@WAflorence) speaking on Project Florence @ #archaeologyuk uses wide variety of e- & tradl media to engage with local ppl

15. Forum outcomes: the way forward for societies – Mike Heyworth, CBA Director

The CBA is the voice for societies. Communication is a two-way process and we can all develop an effective network across archaeology.
Key questions:

- How can societies meet the public demand for hands-on participation?
- How can they communicate most effectively with their audiences?
- How can they engage younger and more diverse audiences?
- Can they make a difference through local advocacy?
- Which partnerships have the most potential?
- How can strengths overcome weaknesses and threats be turned into opportunities?

Participants at the forum acknowledged a real need for good communication and collaboration among the long-standing county archaeology societies and with the local project-based groups springing up as a result of Heritage Lottery funding.

Collaboration and partnership working was seen as key to ensuring that archaeology groups can continue to sustain their committee officers and members, reflect the rich diversity of archaeology, engage new and diverse audiences, and meet the increasing public appetite for hands-on participation and learning.

The CBA can play a part in bringing the voluntary archaeology community together by opening up a dialogue so we can work more closely together to guide, inform and sustain the future of archaeology.

To keep forum conversations going, and open up new ones, we are proposing to promote an online community where societies can keep in touch and share ideas. Feedback on the discussion paper will feed into the development of a website resource hub for societies, for sharing guidance, case studies, training and best practice to encourage local action and participation.

We hope your society will get in touch to give us your feedback on the forum discussions and tell us more about your role in the local heritage landscape.

16. Social media at the forum

Live Twitter feeds following the forum programme are available on our website at: www.archaeologyUK.org/future-of-societies-forum
17. Forum participants

Over 82% of participants were CBA organisational members.

Membership of responding societies (70%) ranged from 50–2,000 individuals (commonly c.300 or 800).

82% of respondents use social media, of which 71% have a Facebook page, 32% a Twitter account and 21% run email discussion lists.

18. Endnotes

¹CBA report, Community Archaeology in the UK: recent findings, April 2010

²Professor Rosemary Cramp, presentation on The value of societies: then and now, CBA Future role of societies Forum, York, 2013