

NEWS LETTER

Issue 27, Early Spring 2014

Mapping the remains of the First World War

02 Stonehenge Visitor
Centre opens



Picture courtesy of English Heritage

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2014 registration



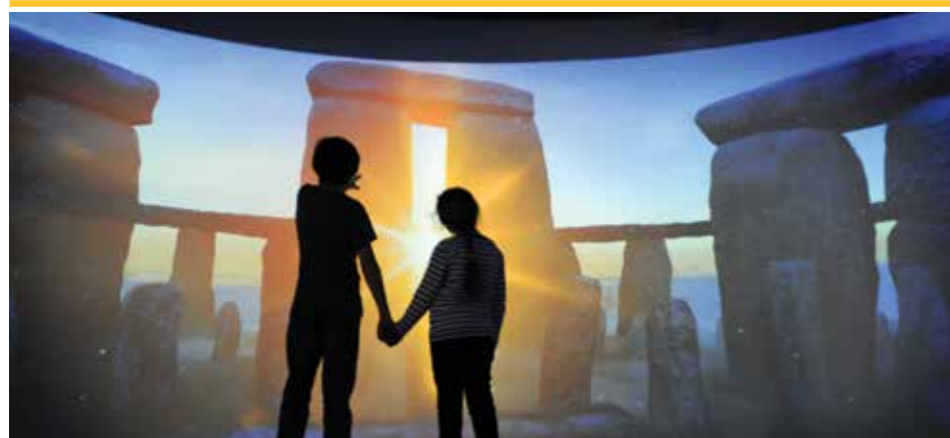
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Archaeology Fund



Council for
British Archaeology

www.archaeologyUK.org

STONEHENGE TRANSFORMED



In mid December 2013 the new visitor centre opened at Stonehenge – a key part of the long-awaited transformation of the World Heritage Site on Salisbury Plain. The CBA campaigned for the closure of the A344 which ran right alongside the stones for many years and this has now been achieved, with the removal of the 20th-century concrete visitor facilities and car park one of the next steps; due to be completed in the summer.

The visitor centre, designed by Denton Corker Marshall, includes new displays and an exhibition area. It is located 1.5 miles away from the stones and visitors are able to see objects used in the construction of Stonehenge and displays of Neolithic and Bronze Age life.

A centrepiece of the new display is the reconstructed face of a 5,500 year-old man found 1.5 miles from Stonehenge – the most advanced reconstruction of a Neolithic man's face to date. Forensic evidence tells us that the face is of a

man 25–40 years old, of slender build, born about 3,500 BC, some 500 years before the circular ditch and banks at Stonehenge were built.

In recent weeks, specially trained volunteers have started to build a group of Neolithic houses outside of the visitor centre, complete with furniture and fittings. These will be the highlight of an outdoor gallery, to open at Easter 2014. Visits to the site can be booked via: www.english-heritage.org.uk/daysout/properties/stonehenge (advance booking is essential).

Pictures courtesy of English Heritage



Museums in Salisbury and Devizes are working in partnership with English Heritage to display related archaeological material linked with Stonehenge.

PROPOSALS FOR ENGLISH HERITAGE

In late 2013 the Government launched a public consultation on the future of English Heritage.

It is proposed to split the current organisation into two bodies: a new charity which will run the sites in the National Heritage Collection – and will continue to be known as English Heritage; and a Non-Departmental Public Body called Historic England. The NDPB will retain the remainder of the current duties and responsibilities of English Heritage for advising on and helping to conserve England's wider historic environment.

The new charity will benefit from a one-off Government investment of £85million, but will be expected to raise a similar sum from private investment, and become financially self-sufficient from Government.

The consultation closed on 7 February 2014 and the Government's decision is expected by Easter. The views of the CBA are available at: www.archaeologyUK.org/speaking-up-for-archaeology

Update on the Local Heritage Engagement Project (LHEN)

The CBA Local Heritage Engagement Project kicked off in December and has already got off to a busy start.

In the last month the project has responded to two public consultations over budget cuts to local authority archaeological services. The first was in Tyne and Wear, where Gateshead Council announced proposals to cut their funding to the Tyne and Wear Specialist Conservation Team – a joint service that gives archaeological advice to Newcastle, Gateshead, North Tyneside, South Tyneside and Sunderland Councils – by 50%.

The second was in Worcestershire, where Worcestershire County Council also announced plans to cut funding to the Worcestershire Archives and Archaeology Service by £750,000 over the next three years (62%), following a recent cut of around £400,000.

The CBA formally responded to both of these proposals, and helped to publicise the consultations via social media and other contacts. For more information about both of these consultations please visit the LHEN pages on the CBA website:

<http://new.archaeologyUK.org/local-heritage-engagement-network>

The project has started to develop partnerships with other organisations that are undertaking similar advocacy work, including IfA, ALGAO and RESCUE, and will be continuing to work closely with these and others

over the coming months. The project is also talking to the CBA regional groups to get their feedback on the development of the project and toolkit.

Local Heritage Coordinator, Tegwen Roberts says, "I've started to meet some of the regional CBA Groups and other groups across the country who are doing fantastic work in terms of researching, conserving, protecting and speaking up for important heritage sites in their local areas.

As well as developing the toolkit, I'm hoping that the project can also showcase some of the great work that is being undertaken by volunteer groups across the country as examples of good practice that be shared with other groups via the Local Heritage Engagement Network."

Tegwen will be continuing to talk to groups and projects across the country over the coming months. If you have a project you would like to share with us, please get in touch!

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT US ON

lhen@archaeologyuk.org
you can also follow the project on...

 [twitter @cba_lhen](https://twitter.com/cba_lhen)

 [Facebook.com/cba.lhen](https://www.facebook.com/cba.lhen)

The way forward for societies

As a follow up to our UK forum last year on the role of societies in the 21st century, we asked county archaeological societies and community groups for their thoughts on their future.

We will be drawing the responses together to publish on our website, and hosting a follow up forum on 17 May in York to provide further discussion, training and networking opportunities. Here are some of the headlines:

Strengths: 28% of responders saw opportunities for practical activities, while a quarter said they could attract good speakers and put together quality lecture and fieldwork programmes.

Weaknesses: 28% of responders found it difficult to attract proactive committee members and succession plan for retiring officers, and had limited funds, equipment and storage.

Opportunities: Partnership working was a key forum topic and 34% of responders saw this as the way forward, with 13% highlighting Heritage Lottery Fund grants and working with local universities and colleges.

Threats: Predictably, just under 50% of societies felt threatened by the economic situation, with 22% citing rising costs of resources. An ageing and declining membership was a cause for concern for 32% of responders and the decline of formal adult education and training.

Join other societies at our one-day forum on 17 May 2014 in York. Details on our website at:

<http://new.archaeologyUK.org/events/forum-for-societies-2014>



The CBA is delighted to announce that its annual Festival of Archaeology, the largest celebration of archaeology in the world, will take place between 12-27 July 2014.

2014 will be the Festival's 24th year, as well as the CBA's 70th anniversary, and the celebrations will be fronted by the CBA's President Dan Snow.

This year the Festival will include over 1000 events across the UK, and will be presented in partnership with around 400 organisations, from national heritage organisations and museums, to local groups and societies. If you are part of a group you can get involved too.

Registrations for events are welcome online at: www.archaeologyfestival.org.uk/organiser or email: festival@archaeologyUK.org to find out more.



WWI PHYSICAL LEGACY OF THE HOME FRONT 1914-18

Recording the remains of the First World War

To mark the 2014-18 Centenary, the Council for British Archaeology is launching a UK-wide public engagement project mapping the physical remains of the First World War in Britain. The Home Front Legacy project will enable volunteer groups to record and preserve local stories, and vulnerable remains, for future generations.



Working with partners across the UK, the CBA will support local history and archaeology societies and centenary projects by providing an online recording toolkit that volunteers can use to record the remains of local sites, structures and buildings associated with our Home Front.

The CBA's new President and First World War enthusiast, Dan Snow, is keen to get as many people as possible involved: "It's amazing how much you can find once you know what to look for. The effects of the Great War are all around us, still visible in our landscape and everyday buildings. Everyone can get out in the field and document these remains."

Volunteers can find forgotten camps and practice trenches in local woods and fields, and search local archives to discover that a factory was turned over to munitions manufacture and that buildings were reused as drill halls, hospitals or prisoner of war camps.

The physical legacy of 100 years ago is all around us and by getting involved in the project, we can pass that knowledge on to future generations."

CBA Director, Mike Heyworth, sees the project as a natural successor to the CBA's acclaimed Defence of Britain project, which resulted in over 20,000 20th-century military sites being recorded by a 600-strong army of volunteers:

"The idea was to record the 20th century militarised landscape of Britain and inform the responsible heritage agencies at both local and national level with a view to the future preservation of surviving structures. The findings highlighted the substantial physical heritage of the First World War here in the UK - but there is much more out there to discover, including buildings temporarily requisitioned for the war effort through the Home Front."

Through the Home Front Legacy project, we are looking not just for a description and photographs of sites, but also documents, maps, plans, historic photographs and postcards, and details of people and events associated with First World War places. Sites associated with events, such as air crashes, bombings, naval raids and strikes can also be recorded.

The Centenary has given us the opportunity to work with English Heritage and partners in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland to encourage communities to extend and preserve our knowledge.



The resulting research and recording data will be passed on to local Historic Environment Records and National Monument Records, as well as being presented in an online map of First World War sites and projects, that opens our local stories up to everyone.

GET INVOLVED

Keep up to date with sites being recorded on the project map and gallery and register your project at: www.homefrontlegacy.org.uk

- Register your project to submit your data and access our online community and gallery
- Follow our Guide to Recording First World War Sites and Buildings
- Complete our online/app recording form
- Look up wordlists of First World War site types and construction materials
- Present your data on a UK-wide map of projects and sites
- Add your data to local and national archaeological records to preserve knowledge and inform future protection of sites.

A CBA Practical Handbook focusing on First World War sites will be published in 2015.

Find out more at: www.archaeologyUK.org/first-world-war



MICK ASTON ARCHAEOLOGY FUND: CONTINUING TO SUPPORT RESEARCH INTO THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

The Mick Aston Archaeology Fund supports voluntary groups, societies and individuals to carry out original research into the historic environment.

It is administered by the CBA and supported by English Heritage and Cadw.

In the last year, grants of up to £1,000 were put to a variety of uses including a number of geophysical surveys around the UK, 3D modelling of a burial chamber in Cornwall, tools and safety equipment for the reconstruction of Bronze Age log boat in Hampshire, radio carbon dating of human skeletons in Nottingham, and dendrochronology in Wales.

We are always keen to hear from groups and individuals with their ideas, particularly projects which encourage young people to participate. For more information please go to:

<http://new.archaeologyuk.org/mick-aston-archaeology-fund>



CASE STUDY Park Life: the Whitworth Park Community Archaeology and History Project

One exemplar project which received support from the Mick Aston Archaeology Fund was that of the Whitworth Park Community Archaeology and History Project. The project set out to investigate the lost features of the 18 acre Victorian park, such as its band stand, boating lake and footpaths. Two seasons of excavations have brought together a wide range of volunteers including members of the local community, schoolchildren, university students, park users and the Friends of the Whitworth Park.

The grant from the CBA contributed towards the cost of specialist artefact analysis, which will help gain insight into the daily practices associated with this urban public space. It is hoped that this new knowledge and appreciation of the heritage of Whitworth will encourage local communities to enjoy the park more and to become involved in its future care.

The project will culminate in 2014 in an exhibition entitled 'Parklife: Pleasure, Play and Politics in Whitworth Park' which will run from 24 May to 5 October at Manchester Museum.

CASEWORK

Saviour for Roofless Chapel

The former Unitarian chapel on Upper Brook street in Manchester is a tricky customer.

As one of the earliest uses of the Gothic style for a non-conformist chapel, and thought to be collaboratively designed by Barry and Pugin who later designed the Houses of Parliament, the building is undoubtedly a highly important piece of our national heritage.

Since 2006 it has been roofless, leaving it open to the elements and in partial, worsening dereliction. The building is now surrounded by car dealerships, main roads and a multi-storey car park.

Fortunately, one element of its locality may also be its saviour: near to the university area of Manchester, plans have been submitted to convert the former chapel into student accommodation. This proposal allows the exterior, which is now the most significant aspect of the remaining design, to exist largely untouched. It provides a viable use for the building to secure its future, prevent further damage and hopefully, it will be enjoyed by many very lucky students!



Picture courtesy of Graham Naylor.

Supporting Community Archaeology

Trainees on the CBA's Community Archaeology Training Project were busy in 2013 running courses for local volunteers in their areas.

Funding from English Heritage helped us to provide training to 600 volunteers in 2013, with many more courses planned for early 2014.

Archaeological recording has proved a hot topic, with recording courses run from the Lake District to West Stow Anglo-Saxon Village, and Ironbridge Gorge to Northumberland. Our trainee at the Northumberland National Park Authority produced a recording field guide which is available for anyone to use on the Introduction to Standards and Guidance in Archaeological Practice website: www.isgap.org.uk

Courses were also run on more unusual subjects, including an introduction to collecting oral histories and a series of hands-on prehistoric metallurgy workshops which covered charcoal burning, bronze casting and iron smelting.

Many of the courses have produced data which is adding to local archaeological records, and people taking part have gone on to use their new skills for volunteering on excavations, finds processing and archiving and to set up new projects with their own groups.

CBA TAKEN OVER

At the end of 2013, the CBA took part in Takeover Day for the first time. Ada Wordsworth, a pupil at Bootham School in York, reports.

On Friday 22 November, nine students made our way to the Council for British Archaeology to take part in Takeover Day, a nationwide programme which aims to get young people into the workplace. Our mission? To make archaeology more appealing to children and young people.

We were split into three groups to work on three projects. One group investigated the design of the Young Archaeologists' Club website, one worked on plans for a young persons' archaeology conference, and my group looked at how to make YAC appealing to people after the age of 13.



The club is extremely popular for pre-teens, however once people reach 13 the interest rapidly drops. We thought one cause of this could be the seemingly young target audience for the publicity. At the end of the day we came together, presented our ideas and proposed that the CBA create an online magazine/magazine app, aimed at older teenager readers. It was a really enjoyable day and I found it to be an extremely valuable experience.

A showcase for the best in UK archaeology with five awards:

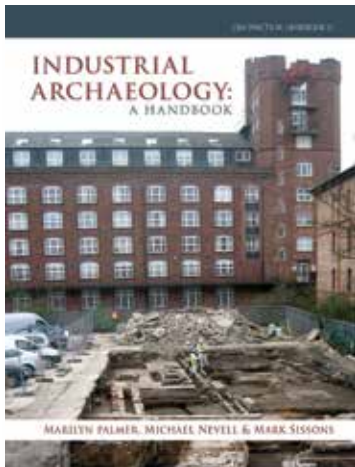
- 1 Best Archaeological Project
- 2 Best Community Engagement Project
- 3 Best Archaeological Book
- 4 Best Public Presentation
- 5 Best Archaeological Innovation



Nominations for the 2014 British Archaeological Awards close on 28 February 2014. Complete a nomination form online at: www.archaeologicalawards.org.uk/nomination-form

Publications

As thoughts begin to turn to spring fieldwork projects, we highlight two important titles from the CBA's back list.

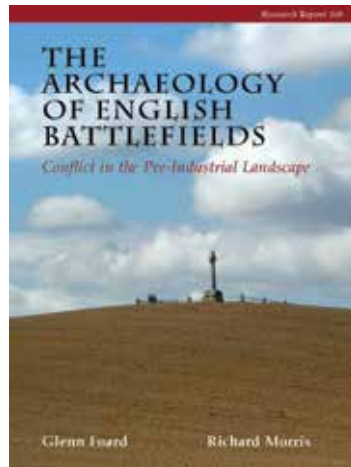


Industrial Archaeology: A Handbook

by Marilyn Palmer, Michael Nevell and Mark Sissons

The latest title in our renowned Practical Handbook series is on Industrial Archaeology. This invaluable book, which covers an amazing array of industries, was written to aid fieldworkers in identifying and evaluating industrial remains across the UK. The Handbook begins with the history of industrial archaeology as a discipline, a history in which the CBA played no small part. Extensively illustrated in colour, it also includes details of industrial processes, key sites for each industry, extensive illustrations and further reading, both online and on paper. An essential reference book for anyone planning a field survey project in an area with industrial heritage remains.

CBA Practical Handbook No. 21,
ISBN: 978-1-902771-92-2
344pp, 112 figs full colour, Price £20



The Archaeology of English

Battlefields by Glenn Foard and Richard Morris.

This seminal work has been described as marking 'a coming-of-age for battlefield archaeology in England'. The authors set out an innovative and interdisciplinary approach to battlefield exploration, ranging from archaeological survey through to ballistics. Their approach is supported by exemplary case studies on several important sites, including Bosworth Field. The book's great strength is that it is the first to explain in detail what battlefield archaeology is about, and hence it will be invaluable to fieldworkers not just in the UK but anywhere in the world.

CBA Research Report 168,
ISBN: 978-1-902771-88-5
216pp, 130 illus full colour, Price £25

To buy these or other CBA titles, visit:
www.archaeologyUK.org/books

CBA GOVERNANCE MATTERS

The CBA's 2014 Winter General Meeting will take place on 24 February in the rooms of the British Academy, 10-11 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AH.

The General Meeting will commence at 4pm. The programme will include an overview from the new CBA Chair Dr Jane Grenville, as well as a report from the Director, Dr Mike Heyworth, MBE. A full programme and papers are available at: www.archaeologyUK.org/cba/wgm

The meeting will be followed by the Marsh Award for Community Archaeology, a reception and the annual Beatrice de Cardi lecture given by the acclaimed historian, writer and broadcaster, Michael Wood.

Places are limited at the venue so prior booking is required by contacting: events@archaeologyUK.org

The CBA will be holding its annual round of trustee elections in the autumn of 2014 and is, in particular, seeking trustees with professional fundraising skills. Please contact the Finance Director, Peter Olver, for further details at: admin@archaeologyUK.org

Council for British Archaeology

GIVING TO THE CBA

You can support the work of the CBA by donating at: www.archaeologyUK.org/support

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