

NEWS LETTER

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Beatrice de Cardi Annual Lecture

CBA members and key partners from the heritage sector came together in February to hear Michael Wood present the 34th Beatrice de Cardi Annual Lecture at the British Academy in London.

Michael, who is Professor in Public History at the University of Manchester, shared his experiences of working with local people on the BBC series, the Story of England:

“An ordinary place on the A6, you’d drive through it without a second look. But perhaps that is the point. Story of England is based on a very simple idea: to tell the story of one place through the whole of English history with the people, not the rulers at the centre of the story.”



Lining up for the 2014 de Cardi lecture.

In 2009 we started the ‘Kibworth Dig’ with many of the villagers digging up their own gardens – with a bit of help from Carezza Lewis and Paul Blinkhorn. The programme had an amazing effect on everyone – both villagers who were increasingly involved with the test pitting in the village and the film crew – many of whom are still in touch with local residents today. It really was community archaeology at its best.”

In his introduction, Michael described Beatrice de Cardi as “part Miss Marple and part Indiana Jones”. Mike Heyworth added, “Beatrice was a real inspiration to generations of archaeologists in her role as CBA Secretary for 25 years, putting them in touch with excavations around the country and helping to kickstart their lifelong involvement with archaeology. We set up the lectures in 1974 to honour her contribution and she has attended every one - she’s still an inspiration to us all in archaeology today.”

A reception before the lecture gave guests an opportunity to hear former President of the CBA, **Francis Pryor** share his personal thoughts on why archaeology matters: “It’s important now more than ever to continue to support the CBA to keep the practice of archaeology alive and give it a future in these challenging economic times”.

CBA President, **Dan Snow**, sprinted over from Broadcasting House, where he was filming live to thank Michael Wood and to say a few words about his plans to support the CBA, particularly through the Home Front Legacy UK recording project and the Festival of Archaeology.



Michael Wood catches a moment with Beatrice.

Jane Grenville, CBA Chair, thanked former Chair and President, **Kate Pretty** who attended the event, for her valuable contribution to CBA governance and acknowledged her key involvement in the CBA’s Young Archaeologists’ Club.

Look out for excerpts from Michael Wood’s talk coming soon on the CBA website.

Thanks to Adam Stanford for donating his photography and video services for the event: www.aerial-cam.co.uk



Enjoying the reception before the lecture.

A FORUM FOR SOCIETIES 17 MAY 2014

The CBA launched a forum for county archaeological societies and community groups in 2013 to stimulate debate on their future role in archaeology. To take some of these discussions further and provide skills sharing and networking opportunities for groups, we are hosting a follow-up forum on 17 May at the Bar Convent in York.

The programme will focus on digital publishing and open access issues for voluntary groups, along with a report on the outcomes of our recent survey to societies, presentations on young people and heritage, and a workshop on increasing and engaging audiences through social media. The CBA's new Local Heritage Engagement Network project will be launched at the forum, with workshops on how groups can make the case for local authority archaeology and conservation services and safeguard heritage in their area.

Places are limited, so please book early online at new.archaeologyUK.org/forum-for-societies-2014 or by ringing us on 01904 671417.

CHALKE VALLEY

Come and hear CBA President, Dan Snow talk about the First World War and our Home Front Legacy campaign at Chalke Valley History Festival, 23-29 June in Wiltshire.

The event includes four acres of living history encampments and live talks from a host of distinguished speakers. More at www.cvhf.org.uk/festival-programme



CBA Groups' Network Forum 2013 ©CBA

Annual Forum for CBA Groups

The CBA Groups across England and Wales come together at an annual forum to share ideas and good practice, and discuss a range of topics of mutual interest.

This year's CBA Network Forum took place on 5 April in Birmingham, hosted by CBA West Midlands. Group Chair, Sheena Payne-Lunn, sees the event as a vital date in the Groups' programme.

"It was so useful to have the chance to talk about the opportunities and challenges we face with people who share the same issues, and it's always good to meet fellow committee members socially. We keep in touch between forums on our Facebook page and are increasingly helping each other by sharing skills and ideas and organising joint events across the network."

CBA Groups welcome new committee officers and members with a range of skills, including administrative, communications and business skills. Representatives from societies and heritage bodies in the region are also encouraged to come along to meetings.

Contact details for your local CBA Group can be found at www.archaeologyUK.org/join-a-cba-group

GREAT EXCAVATIONS

With events for the 2014 Festival of Archaeology beginning to roll in, the Young Archaeologists' Club is delighted to announce Great Excavations: the YAC Family Conference.

Taking place at the University of York on Saturday 26 July, Great Excavations will bring together some of the UK's most influential archaeologists to share their research with young people. Speakers include Hayley Saul of the incredible Himalayan Exploration and Archaeological Research Team, who will share her stories of the challenges of doing archaeology high in the mountains. CBA members with young archaeologists in the family can find out more and enjoy special early bird booking via a 'secret page' on the YAC website: www.yac-uk.org/ebconf26

If you would like to put on a Festival of Archaeology event, visit www.archaeologyfestival.org.uk to find out more.



Hayley Saul, Himalayan Archaeologist.

Help us find the forgotten history of Britain's First World War



Last month saw the launch of Home Front Legacy 1914-18, a project where the Council for British Archaeology is working with partners right across the UK, including English Heritage, Historic Scotland, Cadw, the Northern Ireland Environment Agency and the Association of Local Government Archaeology Officers to record the physical remains of the First World War surviving in our landscapes.

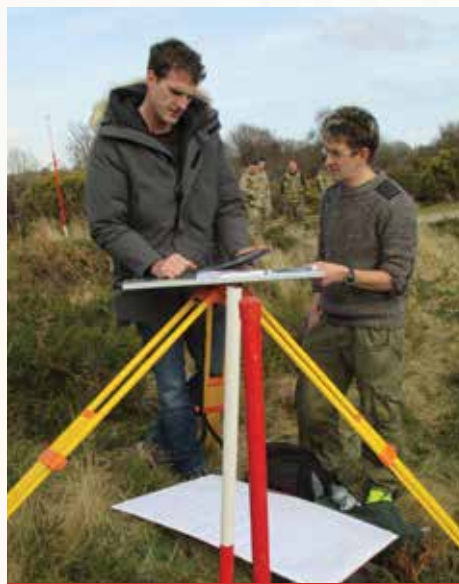
CBA President, Dan Snow kickstarted the campaign by mapping a site with recording expert Stephen Dean of CBA Wessex and servicemen and women from the Armed Forces.

Dan explains: "The replica First World War battlefield rediscovered at Gosport shows us how seriously the army took the business of training. They had to send the guys out to France ready to do the hardest of tasks, something no-one had done before, that is to defeat the German army when they were dug in, with deep trenches, pre-sited artillery and machine guns, and how to break that deadlock. The answer is right here in front of us and that is massive preparation with the resources required. "I was privileged to be the first person to make a recording for the Home Front Legacy project with my iPad. It was easy to use. For starters you simply hit one button and it works out exactly where you are, so no worrying about grid references. Then you can complete each

field on your phone or tablet and enter more information, you can even upload pictures that you have taken on the spot.

"The great thing is that as soon as you submit your observations, everyone else in the country will be able to see the site. The information will also be submitted to the local Historic Environment Record, which offers some protection for these sites by guiding local planning decisions that may affect their future.

"Soon I hope that our map of UK sites will be covered with little red map pins as people from Co. Fermanagh to Orkney and Cornwall to Cardiff rush out to survey their local sites. This really is archaeology for everyone."



Dan using the recording app on-site.



Home Front Legacy 1914-18 turns us all into archaeologists. It could not be more exciting or important. With the help of members of the public armed with their mobile phones, tablets or just a pencil and paper, we are going to map the drill halls, munitions factories, training camps and Home Front places in Britain that were shaped by the unprecedented needs of total war to preserve our stories for future generations.

Dan Snow, Council for British Archaeology President

KEEP UP-TO-DATE

Follow the latest sites and stories on Twitter [@homefrontlegacy](#) and [www.facebook.com/homefrontlegacy](#)

Upload your local First World War sites to our Flickr gallery at: [www.flickr.com/groups/homefrontlegacy](#)

Help us map sites in your area

Send us basic information on the location, type of site and its condition, using our easy-to-use recording form or app, along with current photographs of the site and a simple sketch plan. The project website contains plenty of guidance and resources to help you get started.

If you want to research the site and the people associated with it, and attach copies of old plans, maps, photographs and postcards, then even better.

Register to access the recording toolkit at:

www.homefrontlegacy.org.uk



Top

Practice trench remains at Browndown Camp, Gosport copyright English Heritage Archives.

Middle

Screenshot of the Home Front Legacy mapping app.

Bottom Left

Dan Snow recording the battlefield site at Gosport with Stephen Fisher of CBA Wessex.

Corbett's Corbeau

The Raven Hotel is a striking black and white building in the centre of Droitwich Spa.

Bought by John Corbett in 1879, it is one of several buildings expressing the legacy of the influential man. Corbett owned the Stoke Prior salt works and with the decline in industry, transformed Droitwich into a spa town. Victoria Square, which the Raven Hotel overlooks, was the centre of his new town.

The building existed long before Corbett arrived though. In fact, the core of the building is a sixteenth and seventeenth century timber frame which remains from its life as a manor house. Corbett employed John Cotton to add extensions flanking the historic core, and an amalgamation of additions continued to enlarge the building. One of these is a rather dramatically designed 1930s ballroom, and another is the tower which is now a landmark in Droitwich, seen from across Victoria Square.

Corbett's influence reached further than Droitwich town centre. He commissioned the more famous Grade II* listed Chateau Impney, designed by Auguste Tronquois of Paris in the French Renaissance style, reportedly to cure Corbett's wife of her homesickness for the land where she grew up. The French influence may have also been wordplay for the central Droitwich hotel name: 'Corbeau', means raven.

Now a proposal threatens to demolish much of the history at the Raven Hotel, and the CBA have voiced concerns, as have English Heritage.



Capital in the 1930s ballroom.



FROM WALES

A petition has been launched by a concerned local to stop Cardiff City Council from allowing major demolition to one of Cardiff's finest Victorian buildings.

The Coal Exchange represents Wales' immense commercial power in the late C19 and early C20 based on the 'black gold' which poured down to Cardiff from the valleys and was shipped all around the world. It also saw the first ever £1 million pound deal struck within its walls. Declared as 'unsafe' by the council, they have been accused of using a section of the Building Act to demolish the interior of the building despite its Grade II* listing and without reference to the public or to heritage bodies. To find out more, go to the CBA website:

new.archaeologyuk.org/news/cardiff-coal-exchange-controversy



The Coal Exchange.

Hands on Heritage on the Avalon Marshes



Marc Cox is completing a CBA Community Archaeology Training Placement with Somerset Heritage Service, where he is developing skills in community archaeology, outdoor education and experimental archaeology.

The 'Hands on Heritage' scheme is coordinated by Dr Richard Brunning, as part of a wider Heritage Lottery funded, landscape partnership project in the Avalon Marshes area of the Brue Valley, west of Glastonbury. This winter has seen a surge in activity at the Avalon Marshes Centre, Westhay, deep within the ancient and enigmatic Somerset Levels. Every Wednesday a group of dedicated volunteers descend onto the site, pick up their axes and get

involved with an array of experimental archaeology adventures: from carving an Iron Age bed to hewing a dugout canoe! Working with traditional tools and informed by archaeological evidence, the groups have developed their wood-working and reconstruction skills as well as having a thoroughly enjoyable time!

The volunteers are supporting a wider programme of interpretative 'reconstruction' that comprises: an Iron Age roundhouse from the plans of the nearby Glastonbury Lake Village; a dining room of a Romano-British villa with hypocaust heating; and an Anglo Saxon Long Hall based on evidence from Cheddar. These structures will form an important component of a new visitor centre being established to celebrate the environmental and cultural heritage of the Avalon Marshes and will provide an exciting educational resource for the future.

The project is also creating a skilled and enthusiastic workforce of craftspeople who will be instrumental in the construction and legacy of the proposed archaeological buildings (and have a jolly good time too). Practical workshops have included Early Medieval woodworking with one of the country's leading specialists in ancient timber, Richard Darrah, along with Bronze Age Metalcraft led by the incredibly skilled Neil Burrige. The group has also undertaken a Prehistoric Pottery course making local Iron Age ceramics, Charcoal Burning and Iron Age Wood-carving. This has been facilitated

through the CBA's programme of Voluntary Sector Capacity Building Training with match-funding from the Avalon Marshes Landscape Partnership.

To follow the adventures of the 'Hands on Heritage' team, or learn how to get involved with these incredibly unique projects, visit www.avalonarchaeology.wordpress.com



The pictures show Marc Cox giving practical demonstrations.

CBA BOOKSTALLS

Throughout the year, the CBA runs a number of bookstalls, with on-the-day discounts on CBA publications. Catch us at CBA East's conference at Colchester on 10 May.

[http://cbae@archaeologyUK.org](mailto:cbae@archaeologyUK.org)
Let us know if you would like us to run a stall at your event. Email us at events@archaeologyUK.org

MEMBERS' WEEKENDS

Exclusive archaeology tours for CBA members

Join the UK's leading archaeologists and like-minded CBA members on our forthcoming heritage breaks. Enjoy unique talks and tours at a range of sites, monuments and museums, and meet influential archaeologists who will share their knowledge and first-hand experience with you.

In October 2014, we will explore Suffolk's archaeology from our base in Bury St Edmunds. Highlights include the world-famous Sutton Hoo Anglo-Saxon burial site in the company of its excavator, Professor Martin Carver, and the Neolithic Grime's Graves flint mine.

The **Archaeology of Suffolk** takes place Friday 17 – Sunday 19 October 2014.

Full details of our packed programme are available on the enclosed flyer. Booking is now open.

In August 2015, our in-depth tour of the **Archaeology of Orkney** will take in some of the Islands' most iconic sites. We will explore the monuments that make up the World Heritage Site: Skara Brae Neolithic village, Maeshowe Neolithic chambered

tomb, the Ring of Brodgar, and the Stones of Stenness. Other highlights include the Island of Rousay, famous for its concentration of Neolithic tombs, the magnificent 12th-century St Magnus Cathedral, and the Churchill Barriers and Italian Chapel, intriguing reminders of the Second World War.

Working in partnership with market-leading Orkney Archaeology Tours, our CBA members' exclusive tour will be accompanied by an exciting programme of evening talks from some of the leading experts in the island's archaeology. A full itinerary and booking details are available from the CBA, or at

www.archaeologyUK.org/cba-events

Front cover: Sutton Hoo Helmet, ©The Trustees of the British Museum



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Council for
British Archaeology

PUBLICATIONS

CBA Publications moves into a new era on 1 April as we move our book distribution to Oxbow Books

www.oxbowbooks.com/oxbow



Oxbow books are the market leaders for the marketing and distribution of heritage books in the UK, and we believe they will be able to market our publications more effectively, both in the UK and Europe. CBA publications are already marketed in America through the US arm of Oxbow.

Our Research Report series has a well-deserved reputation for excellence in the UK and this move will increase their visibility to academic markets across Europe, while Oxbow's extensive mailing list will ensure the CBA brand is promoted more widely.

Order CBA publications through the CBA website <http://new.archaeologyuk.org/books-and-publications> which will take you directly to the relevant page at Oxbow.

NEW

Our latest publication is the final title in the Scottish Burgh Survey series: **Historic Wigtown - Archaeology and Development**. Situated in what now seems a remote corner of Dumfries and Galloway, Wigtown was at one time a major port in south-west Scotland, the huge market square a reminder of its importance in the cattle trade. The authors explore the history of the burgh through its topography and buildings.

ARCHAEOLOGY FOR ALL

www.archaeologyUK.org