



ROYAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE NEWSLETTER

No. 62 AUTUMN 2021



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The Department for Transport is currently 're-determining' the Stonehenge/A303 road scheme planning application after a High Court judge ruled in July that the initial planning approval was unlawful; he found that the minister had no evidence for his claim that Stonehenge heritage assets would suffer 'less than substantial harm' as a result of the project. The judge noted that despite warnings from the Planning Inspectorate that the tunnel would cause 'permanent, irreversible harm' to the Unesco World Heritage site, alternative proposals, including a longer tunnel without both entrances emerging within the Unesco site, were not fully considered. There has been further criticism of DoT following inclusion in September of the disputed A303 scheme in the government's new National Infrastructure and Construction ten-year 'pipeline'. The DoT will have to reconsider the impact of any scheme on the World Heritage site, since if the road scheme is not modified, Unesco is considering placing Stonehenge, Avebury and associated sites on its List of World Heritage in Danger next year.

Nevertheless, since the Chesham and Amersham by-election, the Government has decided to look again at its Planning for the Future White Paper, which included proposed changes to the planning process to give more control to central government. Taking away the powers of the local community to voice concerns did not go down well with voters. This pause to rethink provides an opportunity to reiterate concerns about the impact of some of the other proposals in the white paper, which many in the archaeology and heritage sector feel posed a significant potential threat to the protection and enhancement of the historic and natural environments. There have been some positive noises coming from Whitehall about the inclusion of archaeology, but not any guarantees. The current rigorous archaeological assessments legally required of developers since 1990 have so far been omitted. Within growth and renewal areas there must be provision for appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation. Under the current proposals, in 'growth' zones applications conforming to pre-agreed local plans would automatically gain initial approval. Items of archaeological interest are just as likely to occur in areas earmarked for growth as they are in protected areas, and many assets are as yet unrecorded, undesignated or remain undiscovered. Areas earmarked for development could lose archaeological evidence unless there is an opportunity to insert conditions for archaeological assessments. Some commentators in support of proposed changes had repeated the fallacy that archaeological work is a barrier to affordable housing. 'Fewer than 0.01% of planning applications are rejected for reasons which include archaeology, and it is very rare for it to be the only reason that a proposed construction does not take place. In fact, professional archaeological intervention at an early stage prevents delays; savings to the construction industry through reduced delay were estimated at £1.3bn in 2017-18 alone. The costs of archaeology are just 0.13% of all construction spending, making it a tiny expense' (ALGAO).

On the website of Dig for Archaeology, there is a template for writing a letter to your MP or to a Minister (<https://www.dig4arch.co.uk/what-can-i-do-to-help>). Michael Gove is the new Secretary of State at what was known as Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government but is changing its name to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

Archaeology plays a key role in our local communities, national identity and global reputation. Despite the current shortage in Britain of skilled staff in archaeology (it is on the government's skill shortage list) there had been a reduction in government funding for archaeology degree courses in England, with the departments at Sheffield and Worcester already facing closure, and Chester making redundancies. The UK's archaeology degree programmes are internationally recognised as the best in the world, while our graduates – unusually straddling the sciences and humanities – are trained to be dynamic, problem-solving team-players whose skills are valuable not just in the heritage sphere but in a wide range of professions. There has been one small piece of welcome news, that the proposed halving of funding for archaeology courses was overturned; the Education Secretary said, 'Having considered the consultation responses and the issues they highlighted, I have concluded that archaeology ... will not be subject to the 50% reduction in subsidy.'

FROM OUR PRESIDENT – Lindsay Allason-Jones

I feel very proud and highly delighted to have been elected as President of the Royal Archaeological Institute, after fifteen years off for good behaviour, and look forward to meeting you all again as soon as it is possible.

The past two years have not been easy for any institution, and many thanks are owed to our Administrator, Officers and the members of Council who have held everything together during this time and, indeed, have progressed the *Review of the Activities and Effectiveness of the Royal Archaeological Institute*, which was published in December 2020. Thank you all for responding to the request for data, ideas and opinions for this project. The next few years will require much work to implement the recommendations of the *Review*. This

work will not be rushed, as much discussion will be required to guarantee that no baby is accidentally thrown out with the bathwater, but steady progress is anticipated in order to ensure that the Institute emerges as a strong organisation, fit for a twenty-first-century membership.

One problem that needs to be solved briskly, however, is to discover what has happened to volumes 177 and 178 of *The Archaeological Journal*. So far, this has proved to be deeply mysterious as some volumes have been safely delivered but most have disappeared without trace, despite our publishers assuring us that they have been dispatched. All possible effort is being expended to get both volumes to all members as soon as possible and to make sure this does not happen again.

FUTURE COUNCIL MEMBERS

The Institute has for some years pursued a policy of supporting early career archaeologists, through its early careers lecture programme, for example, and other initiatives. Council also recognises that the Institute's website needs a significant up-

grade and that we need to enhance our use of digital media.

In order to develop these areas of need and output, Council proposes to appoint two new Trustees with skills, knowledge and expertise: in youth and early career

support, and in digital media and website management and use. Appointments as Council members – Trustees of the Institute – are for four years, and are regulated by the Charity Commission.

It is anticipated that these proposed appointments will be advertised, in order to attract the most appropriate candidates. However, if you, as a member

of the Institute, feel that you have the requisite skills and experience, and would be interested in contributing to these developments and championing these areas of work on Council, then in order to register your interest and find out more about the requirements of these positions, please contact our Administrator at admin@royalarchinst.org.

OUR NEW MEETINGS SECRETARY

Peter Ginn has agreed to act as Meetings Secretary, and with Assistant Meetings Secretary Caroline Raison, is already preparing for the very welcome resumption of our excursions. Peter has kindly sent this note of introduction:

I lay on my side several feet in the air in a cow shed, balanced on a few unsecured hazel rods as the sharp thatching needle pierced the bracken base coat inches from my head. As I fumbled with the twine the words of my father were ringing in my ears 'any fool can be wet and cold'. Following a glorious Indian summer, November was bitter. I was shrouded in thick woollen overcoat, woollen cap, and woollen trousers, and for the best part I was keeping at bay the freezing damp air that was a permanent feature of Grey Hill, but my feet would need to go into the freezer to warm up, my two pairs of thick socks doing little to combat the thermal conductive properties



Peter Ginn operating the steam crane at Keighley and Worth Valley Railway, West Yorkshire
(A. Langlands, © P. Ginn)

of the hobnails in my boots. Living on a hill farm as in the seventeenth century gave a glimpse of hardships that many, but by no means all, in the modern age had forgotten.

As a boy I'd had a dream of being a train driver, but when the time came to undertake work experience while at Blessed George Napier Comprehensive School, I opted for seeing what it was like to be a barrister. My interest in law had been sparked by John Mortimer's character Rumpole of the Bailey. My school managed to secure me a place at a debt collector's, which was interesting, but the following year I organised my own work experience placement. I spent a week at the Oxford Archaeological Unit and I fell in love with the discipline. Just over a year later I turned up at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London, to read Egyptian Archaeology.

It was at the Institute that I was introduced to the emerging discipline of public archaeology and that began to shape my views and career, instilling in me an opinion that history and the study of archaeology needs to be accessible to all. I have spent much time in the field working for commercial units or being involved with research excavations, and teaching both members of the public and university students. However, no matter what I do in life I will always be known for my part in the array of BBC2 programmes known as 'The Farm Series'.

Starting on a hill in Wales back in 2003 we progressed through the ages studying in detail the rural social history of the Victorians, the Edwardians, the Second World War, and the Tudors, and life on a construction site of a thirteenth-century French Castle, until finally I realised my childhood dream of being a train driver as we travelled the country and worked with several preservation railways. It has gifted me the opportunity to explore fully the experimental side of archaeology, to meet a wealth of people harbouring that ever-precious intangible history of a soon-forgotten past, led to my becoming the patron of Preservation Maryland in Baltimore, to my working with several charities, not least 'Waterloo Uncovered', and now to my taking on the role of Meetings Secretary at the Institute.

I see it as a great honour to be involved with the Institute and fully intend to tread that ever delicate line of sustaining and nurturing the best elements of what has been while helping to evolve and adapt our role to what will come.

ATTENDING LECTURES AT BURLINGTON HOUSE AND USING THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES' LIBRARY – Brian Kerr, Hon. Secretary

Since the ending of mandatory Covid-19 restrictions in England in July, the Society of Antiquaries has announced that they hope to hold lectures 'in person' at Burlington House, subject to restrictions, although live-streaming of lectures on their YouTube channel will continue. We also intend to resume our meetings at Burlington House from October, and we are told that the Lecture Theatre and Council Room will be available to us as before.

The Antiquaries' Library re-opened to users on a limited basis, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. This was being reviewed in September, and the hours may be extended after that. They cannot yet fully reopen due to the backlog of new publication processing work that built up during Lockdown. There is no requirement for Fellows or Institute members to pre-book visits to the Library. Institute readers will be able to access the main library room only for now; if you should need access to materials held in the basement or any rooms other than the main library room, you would need to order that material in advance. Further information on Library opening, and access to the catalogues, can be found online at <https://www.sal.org.uk/collections/visiting-and-using-our-collections/>.

There is now no requirement to complete Covid declaration forms, no temperature checks on arrival, and the wearing of facemasks, though recommended, is optional.

There is, however, a QR code for the NHS Track and Trace app at the entrance to Burlington House, and staff, Fellows, and visitors, including Institute members, are asked to scan it before entering the building.

To keep us all safe, the Society is still making hand sanitiser and masks available in the main entrance, as well as in the Library, and they ask everyone coming to Burlington House to try and maintain social distance wherever possible.

While we have been told by the Government that they do not want to reimpose mandatory restrictions, it remains possible that the above information is subject to change and *in extremis* it may be necessary to cancel meetings if circumstances change or Government Guidance so demands. For enquiries, the Institute Administrator's mobile number is 07847 600756.

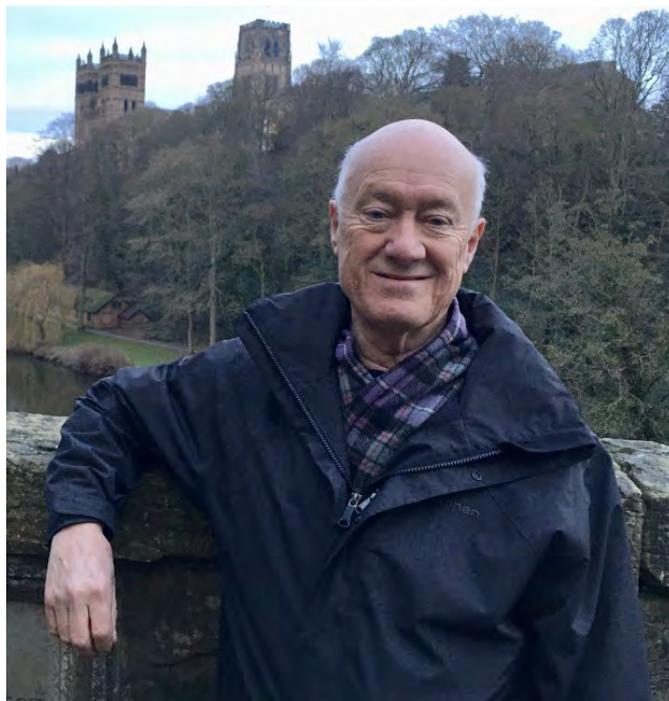
GRANTS AND AWARDS

British Academy's Kenyon Medal 2021

Professor David J. Breeze, the Institute's President during 2009–12, has been awarded the British Academy's Kenyon Medal for 2021, for his outstanding international contribution to the archaeology of the Roman Empire. The Kenyon Medal is awarded annually in recognition of work in the fields

of classical studies and archaeology. It was endowed in 1957 by Sir Frederic Kenyon (1863–1952), the Academy's sixth president and second secretary.

David is a graduate of Durham University, where he fell under the spell of Eric Birley. His subsequent research focused on Roman frontiers and the Roman army. After serving as Chief Inspector of Ancient Monuments for Scotland, he led the team which



Professor David Breeze (view from Prebends Bridge, N-W over the River Wear towards Durham Cathedral (Avril Sinclair, © D. Breeze)

ROYAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE RESEARCH GRANTS

The Institute awards the following grants annually:

Tony Clark Fund Up to £500 for archaeological work and dating

Bunnell Lewis Fund Up to £750 towards archaeology of the Roman period in the UK

RAI Award Up to £5000 towards archaeological work in the UK

Please write to the Administrator @ RAI c/o Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, London, W1J 0BE for an application form, or visit our website, www.royalarchinst.org.

Closing date for applications: 13 December 2021. Awards announced in April 2022.

successfully nominated the Antonine Wall as a World Heritage Site and helped create the Frontiers of the Roman Empire World Heritage Site (for a vignette, see *Newsletter* 60, pp. 11–13). David has served as chair of the International Congress of Roman Frontier Studies and is Honorary Professor at the Universities of Durham, Edinburgh, Newcastle and Stirling.

I have spent a lifetime seeking to understand better Roman frontiers such as Hadrian's Wall and thereby hope to appreciate the mindset of their builders and how they operated.'

Archaeological Achievement Awards 2021

The purpose of the Awards is to advance public education in the study and practice of archaeology, and to celebrate archaeological achievements. The award categories have been revised in order to reflect better the diverse work being undertaken by professional and volunteer archaeologists. There is a commitment to recognising significant contributions to knowledge and the importance of research, professional standards and excellence, involvement of local communities in the study of archaeology, effective dissemination and

presentation of archaeological knowledge and innovation, and originality of approach.

There will be one overall outstanding achievement award, and five categories, with an emphasis on a range of cross-cutting themes that are designed to show how archaeology relates to wider society. These themes are:

Health and well-being

Collaboration – commercial/academic/public

Equality, diversity and inclusion

Place-shaping/place-making.

Nominations opened on 1 August and close on 31 October 2021, under the following categories:

Outstanding achievement

Archaeological innovation

Public dissemination or presentation

Engagement and participation

Early career archaeologist

Learning, training, and skills.

Further information, including nomination forms, is available at their dedicated website: <http://www.archaeologicalawards.com>. The awards ceremony will be held in late November 2021 at a place and time to be confirmed.

Council For for British Archaeology Festival 2021

The CBA annual Festival of Archaeology was held from 17 July to 1 August, with the theme 'Exploring Local Places'. Although it had successfully largely reverted to on-the-ground events, it included some items which are still available on YouTube. The Institute again supported 'A Day in Archaeology'. The dates for the 2022 Festival of Archaeology are 16 July–31 July, though at the time of writing the theme is unknown.

Current Archaeology Awards 2022

The next annual awards will be announced on Friday 25 February, during 'Current Archaeology Online! 25–27 February, 2022'. Each category is the Best of the Year for: Research Project, Rescue Project, Book, or Archaeologist. Voted for entirely by the public – there are no panels of judges – the awards celebrate the projects and publications that made the pages of the eponymous magazine over the past year, and the people judged to have made outstanding contributions to archaeology. The best way to vote is via the Current Archaeology website.

RAI Cheney Bursaries

As a result of a bequest left by Frank Cheney, the Institute has a small fund of money to enable students to attend conferences or RAI meetings. An allocation is available annually from which individuals can apply for a maximum sum of £200. Please check with the Administrator that money remains

in the yearly fund before you apply. Students who wish to apply for a bursary should email to admin@royalarchinst.org.uk or write to the Administrator, RAI, c/o Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, W1J 0BE, at least six weeks before the event they wish to attend, stating: the institution in which they study, the event they wish to attend, the sum of money requested, a breakdown of how the money would be spent and a summary (up to 250 words) of why they would like to attend the event and in what way this would be useful to them. Successful applicants may be asked to produce a brief report of the event for the Institute. A bursary was last awarded in March 2020.

RAI Dissertation Prizes

The RAI awards prizes for dissertations on a subject concerned with the archaeology or architectural history of Britain, Ireland and adjacent areas of Europe. In odd-numbered years, the competition is for the best dissertation submitted by a Master's student. In even-numbered years, the Tony Baggs Award is given to the best dissertation submitted by an undergraduate in full-time education. Nominations are made by University and College Departments. The winner will receive £500 and the opportunity for a paper based on the dissertation to be published in the *Archaeological Journal*. The chief criteria considered are (a) quality of work and (b) appropriateness to the interests of the RAI as reflected in the journal. The prize will be presented at the Institute's December meeting.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Please note that **non-members** are **not covered** by the Royal Archaeological Institute's Public Liability Insurance and they **must arrange their own insurance** to enable them to attend Institute Meetings.

Places are limited, so please book promptly.

In **2021** there will be **no Annual Conference**

Late Summer meeting 4–9 October, to Gwynedd, led by Caroline Raison and Peter Ginn

Forthcoming in 2022 (postponed from 2020)

Spring Meeting 13–15 May, at Dover, led by Jonathan Coad (details to be confirmed)

Summer Meeting 2–9 July, to Copenhagen and Malmo, led by Hedley Swain (details to be confirmed)

More information will be made available on our website as soon as possible. Details of visits still depend on pandemic constraints and the reaction to them of organisations and venues we hope to visit. Once events are confirmed, full information and booking forms will be on the Institute's Meetings Programme page, <http://www.royalarchinst.org/meetings>.

If you would like further details of any meetings sent to you, please send your e-mail or postal address to the Administrator, RAI, c/o Society of Antiquaries of London, Burlington House, London, W1J 0BE or admin@royalarchinst.org or to Caroline Raison, RAI Assistant Meetings Secretary, 48 Park Avenue, Princes Avenue, Kingston upon Hull, HU5 3ES, or csraison@gmail.com.

Members of the
Royal Sussex
Regiment to the
rear of the Eastern
Battlements, Dover
Castle, in 1912 (by
courtesy of J. Coad).

The Institute's
Spring Meeting
will be at Dover in
May 2022



LECTURE PROGRAMMES

Attending Lectures at Burlington House

Please read the guidance note (see above, pp. 5–6) from our Hon. Secretary, Brian Kerr, giving more information about protocol.

We intend to return to meetings at Burlington House from the Autumn, with live lectures and tea beforehand, but as the Pandemic is not over we have to continue to exercise some caution, and it remains possible that regulations may change. We appreciate that some members may feel reluctant to resume attending such meetings in person, and so we intend to continue the live-streaming of lectures. Anyone wishing to attend a lecture in person should email the Institute's Administrator (admin@royalarchinst.org); at the time of writing, it is not known what cap on numbers there will be, if any.

ROYAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE LECTURE PROGRAMME AND ABSTRACTS: 2021/22

Meetings are held from October to May, on the second Wednesday of the month, at 5.00 pm in the Rooms of the Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1J 0BE. In May, the lecture will be preceded at 4.45 pm by the Institute's Annual General Meeting; in November and April, the lecture will be preceded at 3.00 pm by short presentations. Government guidance permitting, tea will be served at 4.30 pm, or 4.15 pm before the AGM.

For enquiries, the Institute's mobile number is 07847 600756.

Access to Lectures Online

To view the forthcoming Institute's lectures online, if you have not already done so, please contact the Administrator with your email address at admin@royalarchinst.org, and before each lecture you will be sent the link.

2021

13 October

Putting the Pieces Back Together: What Slighting Can Tell Us about the Past

Dr Richard Nevell

Castles are monumental structures, built as expressions of identity, strength, and as residences and fortifications. How they were used and what happened to them can tell us about medieval society and power dynamics. This talk will look at an aspect of castles which has wider implications: the

act of deliberately damaging them, known as 'slighting'. The various approaches and sources available to understand slighting will be explored and applied to Pevensey Castle in Sussex. King John gave orders to slight the castle in 1216 in the midst of war with his barons and an invasion from France, but to what extent can this be detected in the surviving remains and how should this influence how we understand destruction? In answering these questions, this talk will address the challenges of interpreting the source material, how authority was expressed

through destruction, and suggest how these methods can be applied to other contexts.

10 November

It has not been possible to arrange presentations at 3.00 pm by 'New Archaeologists'.

5.00 pm: **Tattershall Castle: The Newly Built Personality of Ralph Lord Cromwell**

James Wright

Rising from a Lincolnshire family of limited political influence, Ralph Cromwell became one of the most significant figures of the mid-fifteenth century. Linking structure to biography, the personality of a man on the rise from Lord of the Manor to Lord Treasurer of England is reflected in the power statements of his castles, great houses and ecclesiastical buildings. This can be contrasted with glimpses of the vulnerabilities and status anxieties bound up in his social identity, with emphatic yet revealing architectural statements revolving around his motto, heraldry, livery badges and repeated architectural devices. Those structures which he commissioned then went on to have an extraordinarily powerful legacy which lasted for over 150 years of English architecture.

8 December

Talking Torcs: A Craft Perspective on Iron Age Gold

Dr Tessa Machling and Roland Williamson

Tessa Machling and Roland Williamson have been researching torcs since 2015, when they realised that the prevalent manufacturing theories for Iron Age gold torcs were incorrect. This in turn has led to an ongoing research project involving a team of goldsmiths, silversmiths and jewellers which aims to understand the methods used to create Iron Age gold artefacts and to examine

how this may allow a better understanding of goldsmithing and trade/exchange/gifting in Iron Age Britain and Ireland.

2022

12 January

A Roman Shrine Complex at Teffont, Wiltshire

Dr David Roberts

Long-term research at Teffont (S-W Wilts.) has revealed a complex Roman landscape and structures centred around an enclosure on a steep greensand ridge. This lecture will draw together survey, excavation and analysis of material culture to review the development of this significant site from the Late Iron Age, through the Roman period, and into the post-Roman period. The shrine complex at Teffont will then be set in its wider context, drawing on wider recent survey and excavation evidence from the region to demonstrate the diversity and complexity of later Roman religious practice in the area, and the close relationships between landscape practice and religion.

9 February

Lindisfarne: New Research and New Ways of Working, the DigVentures Model in Action

Lisa Westcott Wilkins and Brendon Wilkins

In 2021, in collaboration with Dr David Petts of Durham University, the DigVentures team is running its sixth season of excavation of the significant early monastic site at Lindisfarne (Northumb.). The results of this work are fascinating in themselves, but we will also explore the new way of working developed by DigVentures. The excavation has been entirely crowdfunded, £0.25m so far, and all of the data recorded to date are available to study online. Working in this way on this and other projects has resulted

in the growth of a large community of engaged followers, both on site and online, and we believe that this model has both widened and deepened public engagement in archaeological research.

9 March

The Life and Times of Black Loch of Myrton

Dr Anne Crone

Black Loch of Myrton (DG) is an exceptionally well-preserved Iron Age wetland settlement, the first of its type to be identified in Scotland. At any one time in its occupation it consisted of several roundhouses within a defensive perimeter, a palisaded enclosure in other words. What sets it apart from other dryland enclosures is its

location on a peaty island in a small loch; this has ensured that the organic remains of the roundhouses, a trackway and the palisades have been preserved, as well as the occupation surface. The settlement is precisely dated by dendrochronology so that we can trace its evolution over three major episodes from the mid-fifth century BC until the latter half of the third century BC. An array of innovative and integrated analyses has provided detailed evidence for living conditions and the use of space within the roundhouses. The focus of this lecture will be the occupation of the settlement, its chronology, construction and possible function. The cultural context of the settlement will be discussed and we will explore the perennial question — why live out on the water?



Composite photogrammetric view of the trackway and one of the roundhouses at Black Loch of Myrton.

(© AOC Archaeology Group)

13 April

3.00 pm: **Three presentations by Post-Graduate students from the University of Sheffield.** Further information will be available on the Institute's website.

5.00 pm: **Best of British? A Practical Analysis of Later Prehistoric Equitation in Britain**

Dr Rena Maguire

The archaeological record of Britain contains numerous highly decorative Iron Age snaffles and other pieces of equestrian equipment which have sometimes been interpreted in fanciful ways. However, by blending practical stable yard know-how and new archaeological analyses of the equipment, we can start to 'see' the very real humans beside their horses. This overview of later prehistoric tack in Britain offers some insight into changing societies and technologies, and how it relates to

contemporary equitation in Europe and Ireland — and why it matters.

11 May **The President's Lecture** **A 'scandalous trough' and Other Tales of Romano-British Sculpture**

Lindsay Allason-Jones

During the course of work on the final volume of the *Corpus Signorum Imperii Romani for Great Britain* (volume I, fascicule 11), which covers the hinterland of Hadrian's Wall, several new pieces of Romano-British sculpture have been discovered, and some long-lost have been re-found. Many of the stones have curious histories, and even folk legends about them. Others fill gaps in our knowledge about the Romans in the north of England and offer evidence about religious practice in the Military Zone at this time.

The lecture will be preceded at 4.45 pm by the 2022 Annual General Meeting, with tea at 4.15 pm.

British Archaeological Association Meetings

Royal Archaeological Institute members are invited to attend the meetings of the BAA; please see <https://thebaa.org/meetings-events/lectures/annual-lecture-series/> for the 2021/22 programme.

Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month from October to May, at 5.00 pm in the rooms of the Society of Antiquaries of London.

Please check the website for any restrictions at present. Non-members are asked to make themselves known to the Hon. Director on arrival and to sign the visitors' book.

2021

6 October

From Defacement to Revivification: A Digital-Archaeological Approach to Illuminating the Nave Paintings of St Albans Cathedral

Michael Michael

3 November

Imagining Jerusalem in Late Medieval Scotland

Lizzie Swarbrick

1 December

The Henry of Blois Enamels: A(nother) Reassessment

John Munns

2022

5 January

Early Irish Sculpture and the Art of the High Crosses

Roger Stalley

2 February

Antiquarian Societies and Scholarly Networks: Collectors, Curators and Conferences

Naomi Speakman

2 March

Writing Weaving at Sankt Klara,

Nuremburg: A Consideration of Wolfenbüttel, Herzog August Bibliothek (Cod. Guelf. 57 Aug.8)

Megan McNamee

6 April

Building the Parish Church 1150–1300

Meg Bernstein

4 May

Gothic Networks: Juan Guas in Fifteenth-Century Spain

Costanza Beltrami

London and Middlesex
Archaeology Society

Lecture Programme 2021–22

All lectures take place on the second Tuesday of the month, 6.30–7.30 pm, on Zoom, and booking is thorough the LAMAS website <http://www.lamas.org.uk/>

2021

12 October

London's Waterfront 1666 to 1800: An Introduction to a Large Project

John Schofield

9 November

The EAS and Elsyng Tudor Royal Palace

Martin Dearne

14 December

Where Practice Trenches Meet Roman Ditches: Roman and Wartime Archaeology at Royal Liberty School, Havering

Helen Chittock and Les Capon

2022

11 January

Hillingdon's Hidden History

Emma Tetlow and Skanska-Costain

8 February

AGM and Presidential Address

Gillian Tindall

8 March

The Civil War Defences of London: Rewriting History (and Archaeology)

Peter Mills and Mike Hutchinson

12 April

The Icehouse at Park Crescent West

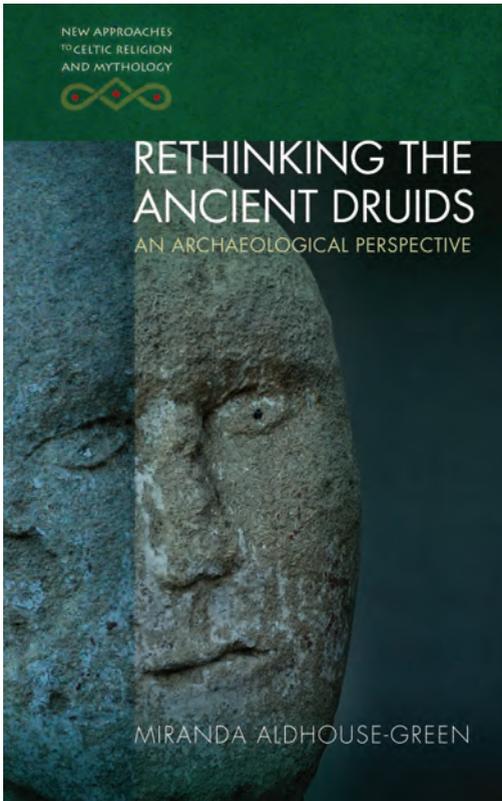
Danny Harrison

10 May **Joint Prehistoric Society and LAMAS lecture**

Hidden Depths: Revealing New Insight into the Archaeological Human Remains from the London Reaches of the River Thames

Nichola Arthur

Book News: Special Offer



Rethinking the Ancient Druids by Miranda Aldhouse-Green, Emeritus Professor of Archaeology at Cardiff University. September 2021, Gwasg Prifysgol Cymru – University of Wales Press.

There are many books about the ancient Druids, but their quality varies enormously and there are no directly competing texts of this quality in English, and none that highlight evidence from Wales. Ancient Classical authors defined them as a barbaric priesthood that perpetrated savage and bloody rites in the name of their gods. Archaeology tells a different story, of a theocracy with immense political and sacred power. This book explores the tangible ‘footprint’ they have left behind

– in sacred spaces, art, ritual equipment, images of the gods, strange burial rites and human sacrifice. Their material culture indicates how close was the relationship between Druids and the spirit-world, with evidence suggesting they used drug-induced trance. New research findings are shared in accessible and engaging ways, enhanced by copious illustrations woven into the text. 224 pp., £45. Paperback: 9781786837974; eBook: 9781786837998; pdf: 9781786837981.

A 20% discount is offered with the code NACRM21, available at this website only: <https://www.uwp.co.uk/book/rethinking-the-ancient-druids/>.

The RAI office

The telephone number for the Administrator is 07847 600756, the email is admin@royalarchinst.org and the postal address is RAI, c/o Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, London W1J 0BE. The RAI has no office in London, but the Administrator will usually be available at this address on the second Wednesday of each month from October to May, between 11.00 am and 3.00 pm.

Request

If members have links to local or learned societies anywhere in the UK, could they please register them with the Administrator; local contacts are so helpful in the running of meetings.

Student/Young Person’s Sponsored Membership of the RAI

A year’s membership of the Institute, sponsored by volunteer existing members, has been given to some second- or third-year degree students

under 26, nominated by their archaeology department, and to winners of dissertation prizes. Thank you to those members who have been sponsors, and it would be a great help if you'd like to continue. New sponsors

are always welcome — £20 pays for a year's membership for one. If you can help us to expand the scheme, either with funds or by proposing more candidates, please contact the Administrator at the address below.

Burlington House

Since the 1870s, learned societies have been tenants of Burlington House under a bespoke Government arrangement which has delivered immense public value as a hub of cultural and scientific discovery. The Royal Archaeological Institute has for much of that time had a close relationship with the Society of Antiquaries, in whose rooms there we meet regularly, keep archival material, and may study in the library.

Following a change in Government accounting rules, the rents at Burlington House are rapidly escalating: the Antiquaries' rent has already increased by 3,100% since 2012. The landlord, the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government has recently shared a proposed solution with the tenant Societies, but although it proposes a slower rate of increase in rent, it does not take into account that the rent is already unaffordable.

Relocation would threaten the continued existence of the Society of Antiquaries in its current form and would be prohibitively



An early postcard of Burlington House
(© The Linnean Society of London)

costly. After eight years spent attempting to seek a fair arrangement behind closed doors, the Societies have 'gone public'; they need a new basis for tenure, as simply slowing down the rate of increase is not enough.

At <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O7UnBHHghGI> you can see Professor Michael Wood's five-minute film presentation of the learned societies' case. Please share this link with friends and colleagues and ask them to join you by forwarding it to your local MP, and to all Ministers, to urge the Government to find a new and realistic basis for tenure.

ROYAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE NEWSLETTER

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NEXT ISSUE Copy for the next issue must reach the editor by the end of January 2022 for publication in April 2022.

THIS ISSUE'S COVER PICTURE: St Seiriol, detail from a window designed c. 1855 by David Evans. It is in the east wall of the south transept, Church of St Seiriol, Penmon, Anglesey, to be visited during the Institute's late Summer Meeting, October 2021 © S. Hatton, Dreamstime.com