



## Dore Abbey

Dore abbey was founded close to the River Dore in 1147 by Robert fitz Harold of Ewyas, the Lord of Ewyas Harold, possibly on the site of earlier wooden monastic buildings of which no traces remain. It was formed as a daughter house of the Cistercian abbey at Morimond in France, perhaps after Lord Robert had met the Abbot of Morimond on the Second Crusade. Construction on the local sandstone buildings began around 1175, and continued through the time of the first three abbots, Adam (1186-1216), Adam II (c.1216-1236), and Stephen of Worcester (1236-1257). The design of the church was modelled on that of Morimond, with an aisle-less rectangular presbytery, two rib-vaulted eastern chapels, two transepts, a crossing and a nave.



Gerald of Wales claimed that the first Abbot Adam was a grasping individual set upon Dore's estates by any means, fair or foul. In 1186 Adam I embarked on a grandiose remodelling of the presbytery. During the early 13th century, the abbey expanded its land holdings,

particularly through the acquisition of good quality farmland in the area granted to them by King John in 1216. This enabled the abbey to become wealthy, through the sale of wool, and as a result the abbey was largely rebuilt in the Early English style. The presbytery was again expanded with additional chapels, the addition of a processional ambulatory and domestic buildings including a highly impressive polygonal chapter house. By 1260, the abbey was described as a "sumptuous church". The new building were then consecrated by Thomas de Cantilupe (1275-82), Bishop of Hereford, in 1282, and dedicated to the Holy Trinity and Saint Mary.

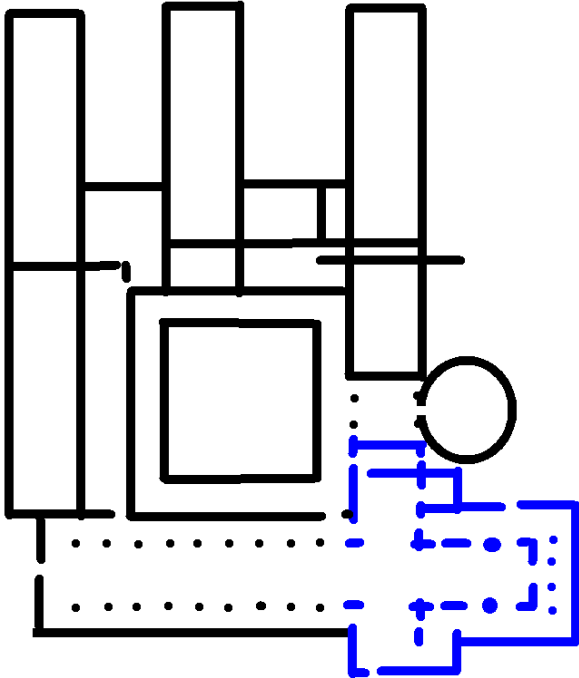


Around 1305, Richard Straddell (d.1346) became Abbot. He was a distinguished scholar and theologian who at times served as a diplomat for the crown. In 1321 he was given a relic of the Holy Cross by William de Gradisson, and the abbey became a centre of pilgrimage.

Large parts of the 12th- and 13th-century buildings, including the north and south transepts and the interior columns, together with some tiles, wooden fittings and fragments

## FEATURES

of stained glass, remain in place today, incorporated into the later church. The building also houses two 13th-century effigies, thought to be those of a later Lord Robert of Ewyas and his half-brother Roger de Clifford (d.1286), and many carved stone roof bosses.

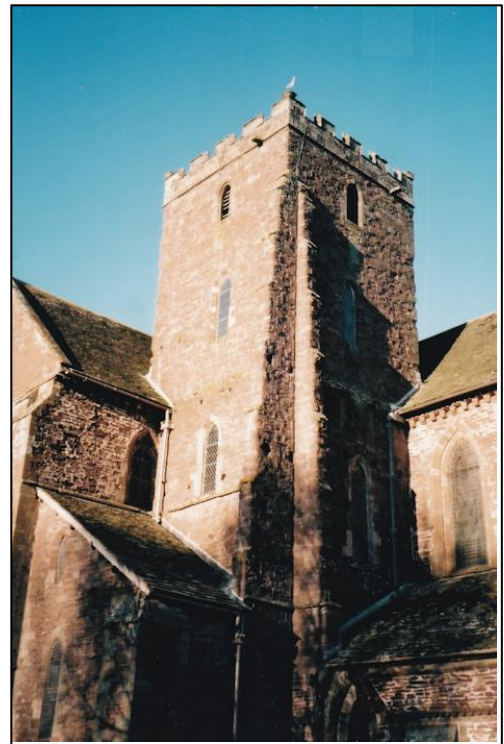


*Full extent of the monastic buildings, with existing church in Blue.*

The abbey was run with the aid of seventeen granges, nine in the Golden Valley, four in northern Gwent, and three far to the west in Brycheiniog, centred on the parish of Gwenddwr. The abbey also owned property in Hereford and elsewhere, drawing revenues from five appropriated parishes.

The abbey was dissolved in 1536 and the buildings were bought by a local landowner, John Scudamore. The buildings were allowed to fall into disrepair but the surviving buildings were restored in the 1630s by his great-great-grandson John Scudamore, 1st Viscount Scudamore. Scudamore was a friend of William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury, who is believed

to have influenced the re-design and rebuilding of the church, for its use as a parish church. The original mediaeval altar was found in a nearby farm, being used for salting meat and making cheese, and was returned to the church. The original nave was blocked off and a new tower erected, and a new carved oak rood screen, incorporating the arms of Scudamore, Laud, and King Charles I, was made by John Abel of Hereford. In addition, new stained glass was provided, and the walls were painted with pictures and texts, many of which remain visible. The new church was re-consecrated on 22 March 1634. Further restoration was carried out between 1700 and 1710, and new paintings, including a large coat of arms of Queen Anne, were added.



By the end of the nineteenth century the church was again in need of repair, and work was carried out by a local architect, Roland Paul, in 1901-09, who was also responsible for part-excavating and plotting the remaining foundations and traces of the original Abbey buildings, which now underlie the churchyard.





CAS visited Abbey Dore on Thursday 17 June 2010.

## Digging for Britain 2023

Members may be viewing the latest series (10th) of Digging for Britain hosted by Alice Roberts on BBC2. It is currently available on BBC i-player and has a very interesting selection of excavations from all over the UK. We've take the opportunity to summarise these sites and the details of the organisations leading the excavations along with the artefacts of interest found.

### A. Southern Britain

1. **Bishop's Stortford Roman Settlement, Hertfordshire** - Roman Britain 43-410AD - A Dig by Oxford Archaeology found a temple structure off of Roman Stane Street along with its associated cemetery.

2. **Cookham, Berkshire** - Early Medieval 410-1066 - Discovery of an Anglo-Saxon monastic settlement associated with Queen Cynethryth, widow of King Offa, & Queen of Mercia.

3. **Dungeness Headland, Kent** - The discovery of the wooden remains of an Elizabethan vessel 1560-1580 was made by Wessex archaeology in shallow water at a gravel quarry. It turns out to [Cardiff Archaeological Society](#)  
Page 3

be a 150 ton Ship's hull found in the shingle, built locally in Kent. The planks show how the ship had been constructed. As it was costly to preserve wood, the remains were replaced in the Quarry for future generations.

4. **Tower of London** - Excavations at Assay house revealed furnaces & forge for coinage manufacture in the Mint in the time of Henry VIII. At this time the currency had been seriously debased and the Digging for Britain team looked into the "copper-nosing" of Tudor coinage.

5. **Winterbourne Kingston, Dorset** - 7th century BCE - Looking into the roman iron age tribe, the Durotriges, a dig was started in 2009 by Bournemouth University. Discovery of a concentrated area of over 30 pits was expected to be for corn storage. However the secondary use of the pits was discovered when 4 female crouched burials were found. It seems the pits were also filled in as middens with old waste products or even ritual deposit areas as finds also included a bronze mirror, many brooches and armlets.

### B. Western Britain

1. **Dorstone, Golden Valley, Herefordshire** - Neolithic 4000-2200 BC - Manchester University excavations surrounding Arthur's Stone found the existence of dry stone walling in a mound surrounding the monument in exceptional condition. Further discovery of an avenue of post holes would led to a re-interpretation of the site.

2. **Alderley Edge, Cheshire** - Industrial 1750-1950 - In 2021 cavers discovered a colbalt mine network, abandoned 200 years ago, not previously known. An Exploration team lead by the Derbyshire Caving Club found a vast quantity of caverns at the end of which was a submerged area. Using a remote submersible

## FEATURES

the team continued their exploration. Cobalt was in great demand for its blue colouring in the 1800s as the main supply had previously come from Europe which were now not obtainable due to the Napoleonic Wars. However demand was short-lived as the Wars soon ended and supply from Europe became plentiful again.

3. **Plymouth, Devon** - Due to subsidence of the quay and road next to the Mayflower departure point of 1620, the opportunity came for finding out what still existed of earlier quays. There were finds of imported pottery by the local fishermen including a Star bead from Morano in Venice.

4. **Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire** - Medieval 1066-1485 - The existence of a Dominican Friary of 1246 in the centre of town was well known but where was it exactly located? Re-development of a town area gave the opportunity of the first ever dig in medieval Haverfordwest by Dyfyd Archaeological Trust. After a slow start, floor & ridge tiles of the building were found, from the St Saviours monastic buildings with a large cemetery of 280 burials attached. The cemetery burials dated from the 13th-17th century. The find of the chalice & plate confirmed the exact location of the Friary had been found.

5. **Derry, Londonderry, Northern Ireland** - Neolithic 4000-2200 BC - Two unique rectangular dwellings were found in 2021 by Northern Archaeology. The site included over a 1,000 fragments of neolithic pottery & a stone knife dating from 3600BC. The period of rectangular building construction did not last long and people reverted back to the more familiar circular dwellings.

### C. Central Britain

1. **Coleshill, Warwickshire** - A Dig by Wessex Archaeology at a known Elizabethan Manor

House uncovered an unknown Royalist Fortified gatehouse with octagonal towers. The huge gatehouse towers were covered with over 186 musket ball indentations from an English civil war skirmish 1642, possibly the earliest action from the English civil war.

2. **Harpole, Northamptonshire** - A Dig carried out by MOLA revealed an Anglo-Saxon Burial with gold, gems and a necklace from the mid-7th century, the central pendant of which was made of gold & held garnets. There was a gold coin pendant and wrapped gold wire beads from a necklace. The most impressive find was a silver cross mounted on wood, which had all but disintegrated. Further work is being carried out in conservation. The Harpole Treasure is the subject of the latest Current Archaeology (February 2023 #395).

3. **Leicester** - Iron Age 800BC-43AD - The discovery of a tree-bark shield with a Stitched-on boss made from basketwork was the topic of this discovery. The research team explored methods of construction of wooden shields and the difficulties encountered with the warping as the bark dried out. A satisfactory method was discovered but it was much more difficult than first thought. Was a light bark covered shields as effective as a metal shield? The team thought the bark shield to be more easily used due its light weight and flexibility.

4. **St Neots, Huntingdonshire** - Roman Britain 43-410AD - A Dig by Oxford Archaeology discovered a roman cemetery full of decapitated skeletons and pots where the heads should be. Were these deviant burials? How could it be when all the interned were treated in the similar manner? The soil gave good bone preservation but were we to discover the reasoning behind these unusual burials of loved-ones?

5. **Sheffield Castle** - A castle, which previously had held captive Mary Queen of Scots, and had been demolished 1648, had been excavated since 2018 by Wessex Archaeology. Positioning of the moat involved 49 test Bore-holes to find its location. The method of bore-holing was described in depth and interpretation of the data explained.

6. **Oxford** - An Oxford Archaeology dig in central Anglo-Saxon Oxford gave the opportunity to find the elusive fortified settlement from the Early Medieval 410-1066 period. There were some coin finds but the surprise from the dig was a Bronze Age burial mound with mid-Saxon skeleton burial. This showed that Oxford had a long history predating its Medieval foundation.

### **D. Southern Britain (Part 2)**

1. **Lower Hazel, South Gloucestershire** - The rare find from the Anarchy era of a 1135 hunting lodge in a Dig in 2011 by a local archaeology team with the University of Bristol. The Finds included spears and arrowheads; But had the warfare between Stephen and Matilda had a direct effect on the disuse of the Lodge? The discovery of 2 Trebuchet balls with impact damage seem to confirm this; Associated finds included a Ham Green pottery jug from the 12th century.

2. **The Seabed English Channel - Eastbourne** - Conflict Post Medieval 1485-1750 Shipwreck - The Anglo-Dutch Naval War of the 1600s was the subject of a Dive by the Nautical Archaeology Society. 31 Canons on a wooden ship was discovered 30 metres down in the English Channel. Modern photogrammetry produced a detailed site map indicating a Dutch warship of 1672 travelling from Italy with Carrera Marble stone blocks as cargo. The Crew possibly numbered over 100 with some remains of the crew still found, so the wreck had to be

treated as a burial site with its associated respect. Documents of the encounter with English ships named the wreck as that of the "Klein Hollandia".

3. **Dorchester, Dorset** - Development at Thomas Hardy's house at Max Gate owned by the National Trust uncovered a 3000 BC henge, the centre of which was located just outside the front door. An avid historian and archaeologist, Hardy was totally unaware of the site of the Henge but would have approved of the new siting of his house on such an historical site.

4. **Roche, Cornwall** - Roman Britain 43-410AD - A Dig by Cornwall Archaeological Unit in 2022 discovered an enclosure with rounded corners. This is thought to be a temporary Roman camp, but as an ankle-breaker was found in a surrounding ditch along with ovens, the site has been interpreted as an early invasion legionary fort from 50AD under Vespasian. This indicates that the conquering of the South-West was just as vicious as that of the rest of Britain. A further smaller fortlet was also discovered, showing prolonged activity in the area. Finds included a rotary quern and a rare pewter dish mould.

5. **Stanton Harcourt, Oxfordshire** - Iron Age 800BC-43AD - A concentration of a 1,000+ underground storage pits was excavated by Thames Valley Archaeological Services. They were found to have originally contained Emmer & Spelt grain. The discovery of so many pits enabled the use of the pits as grain storage to be investigated. Small mammals may have burrowed into the sealed pits contaminating the enclosed grain. This required the firing of the pit before further use. Secondary use by 6 burials were also found. Other finds included textile shears, a scythe and a fossil pendant of an Ammonite with the centre drilled out.

## FEATURES

6. **East Kennet, Wiltshire** - Roman coin 70AD - A area populated with ancient memorials was the topic of this dig. In 2020 a natural void, with features in, was found in the middle of a Farmer's field. Southampton University along with the Farmer's tractor removed several Sarsen boulders to see what existed below. Expecting there to be a cist of a prehistoric burial, the team were disappointed to find a natural void, which looks to have been venerated by the enclosure of the stones. The Romans used this earlier site for ritual depositing of items such as a Shale Whorl.

### E. Eastern Britain

1. **Stamford, Rutlandshire** - Roman Britain 43-410AD - The earlier discovery of a magnificent mosaic from a Late 4th Century Roman farm & villa, encouraged further excavations by the University of Leicester Archaeological services in 2020 to examine the ancillary buildings over a 30 acres site. A second geometric mosaic was uncovered along with hypocausts and wall flues. It indicated over 300 years of use of the farm/villa site. Finds from the dig were bone hair pins and a decorated pair of dividers.

2. **Scarborough, Yorkshire** - Mesolithic 9500-4000 BC - A dig by Manchester University at an island in the middle of a lake, which had rotted down to a layer of peat, revealed cut marks on animal bones. Further excavation discovered flint flakes and the remains of elk, auroch, red deer and wild boar. However not all the carcasses of the animals were found and most of the limbs were missing. It is thought that cuts of animal meat were brought back to the site for processing. Other finds included hunting tools, with some lovely barbed antler points, which may have been ritually deposited as these marvellous items showed no wear.

3. **Kingston upon Hull** - Post Medieval 1485-1750 - Tudor era. Excavations at the Henry

VIII defences South Blockhouse at the fort located to defend the opposite bank of the Humber from attack. It had been demolished in 1800s. The excavations showed that the walls contained monastic rubble infill, probably from the dissolution of the monasteries. A canon was also found. The dig was carried out by Humber Field Archaeology.

4. **Harlaxton, Lincolnshire** - Over 600 flints of the Late Neolithic and Early Bronze age period were uncovered. Finds included many tanged arrow heads.

5. **Hull - Museum of Archaeology** - An Iron Age brooch found in 1900 was re-examined by a curator at the museum. It was found that a shell material had been mistaken for Malachite due to its copper rusting. The artefact further contained a pink coral inlay. In conclusion, the brooch highlights the extensive trade networks with the world at this early period.

6. **Must Farm, Peterborough** - Bronze Age 2200-800BC - Described as Britain's Pompei, in 2016 whilst writing up research of the site, the site gleaned a window into domestic life of the bronze age. Cambridge Archaeological Unit, covering the work, had over 2500 sherds of pottery producing 128 vessels. These pots were shown to contain carbonised remains of porridge, animal fats of goats, red deer, sheep - everyday objects. Fish, meat and dairy products were not used in same pots, so pot use was shown to be separated.

### F. Northern Britain

1. **Islay, Hebrides** - Neolithic Period - A dig at a picturesque site of an Ice Age camp by Reading University, reachable in the Ice Age only by canoe, uncovered 20,000 worked flints. The University has conducted excavations every year since 2010+. Probably among the first



## FEATURES

inhabitation in Britain after the Ice Age. Finds included a burnt hearth.

2. **All Saints Church, Fishergate, York** - A 2006 excavation of a female crouched burial inside the apse of church was found to be of an anchoress, Isabelle German 1428-1448. She had many illnesses, as shown by examination of the bones, such as syphilis and bone marrow disease. Local Manuscripts show the donations from many wealthy patrons at the time.

3. **Street House, Yorkshire** - Close by to the site of previously discovered (2005) Loftus Princess, a burial, found in association with 7th Century jewellery, is the earliest evidence of salt making in Britain. In 2016 a new site was discovered of a Neolithic saltworks (saltern) with evidence of open hearths & furnaces to evaporate the brine from sea water. This produced cakes of salt which was used for food storage, extending the life of foodstuffs.

4. **Liverpool** - Industrial 1750-1950 - A dig by National Museums Liverpool on 3 homes in the Royal Albert Docks, belonging to the Liverpool docks Board, built in 1852. Originally the houses of the Dock masters and their supporting staff, often including servants, these buildings were destroyed by incendiary bombs during WW2. Finds include shrapnel from AA gun shell and white salt stoneware 1720-1770.

5. **Bishop Auckland, Durham** - Auckland Castle, the Bishop's Palace, was the home of the Kings of the North. A dig by University of Durham indicated the medieval perimeter wall, the gate house & the chapel. Once it was the largest private chapel in England. It was built for the Prince Bishop, Anthony Beck at the end of 13th century. It was not demolished at the Dissolution but destroyed around 1650 by Oliver Cromwell. The finds included a copper alloy book clasp; a silver gilt crucifix & virgin Mary, part of Rosary; an enamel & fused glass

band to dress a chalice, dated to the 14th century.

6. **Holyrood Park, Edinburgh** - An excavation by Edinburgh University on one of 4 hillforts on Dunsapie Hill, located just outside Edinburgh. As well as Iron age pottery the finds indicated metal working, animal husbandry and a mysterious stone ball.

## Corfe Castle



Corfe Castle stands above the village of the same name on the Isle of Purbeck in the county of Dorset commanding a gap in the Purbeck Hills on the route between Wareham and Swanage. Little is known about previous activity on the hill, but from contemporary writing the Anglo-Saxon nobility treated it as a residence and there are postholes belonging to a Saxon hall on the site.

Corfe Castle itself was built by William the Conqueror, dating to the 11th century, on a steep hill in a gap in a long line of chalk hills, created by two streams eroding the rock on either side.

It was one of the earliest castles in England to be built using stone, at a time when the majority were built of earth and timber. Corfe Castle underwent major structural changes in the 12th and 13th centuries.

## FEATURES



A stone wall was built around the hilltop, creating an inner ward or enclosure. There were two further enclosures: one to the west, and one that extended south (the outer bailey); in contrast to the inner bailey, these were surrounded by palisades made from timber.

In the early 12th century, Henry I began the construction of a stone keep. The work began in around 1096 or 1097, using Purbeck limestone quarried a few miles away and was completed by 1105. By the reign of King Stephen (1135-1154) Corfe Castle was a strong fortress with a keep and inner enclosure. In 1139, during the civil war of Stephen's reign, Corfe withstood a siege by the king.

During the reign of Henry II Corfe Castle had probably not been significantly changed, and records from Richard I's reign indicate maintenance rather than significant new building work.

There was extensive construction of other towers, halls and walls occurring during the reigns of John and Henry III. Eleanor, Duchess of Brittany who posed a potential threat to both the crowns of John & Henry III, was kept in confinement at Corfe until 1222. John also kept the Scottish hostages; Margaret of Scotland and Isobel of Scotland, there. In 1203, Savari de Mauléon was also imprisoned there, but reputedly escaped by getting his

jailers drunk and then overpowering them. The Gloriette in the inner bailey was built, during John's reign between 1201 and 1204, due to unrest in the region.



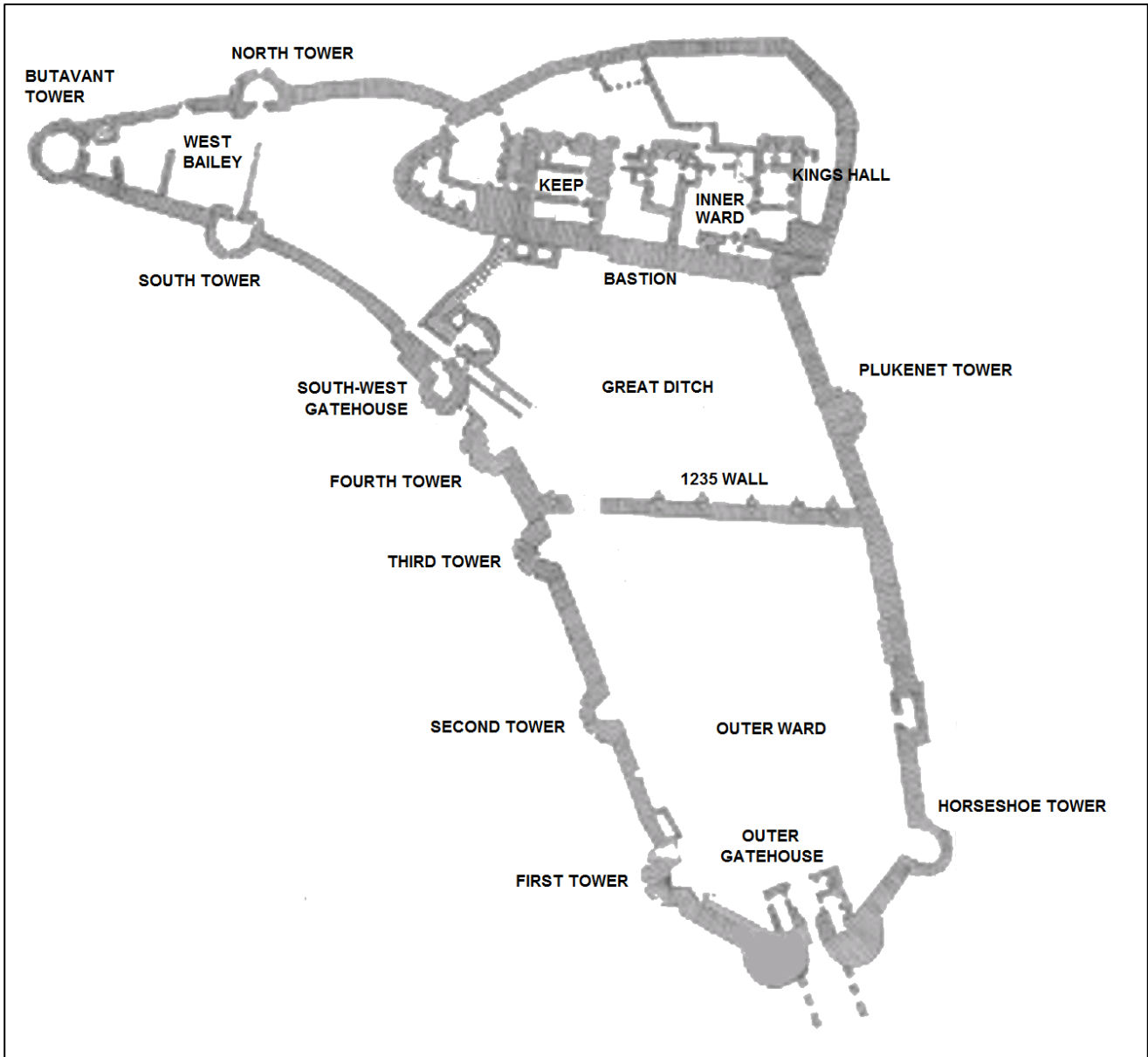
*A model of the 15<sup>th</sup> century Castle*

The secondary role of the castle, to act as a storage facility, was demonstrated in 1224 when Henry III sent for 15,000 crossbow bolts from Corfe to be used in the siege of Bedford Castle.

Henry III spent over £1,000 on Corfe Castle, during the years 1235 and 1236, including £362 spent on the keep. While construction was under-way, a camp to accommodate the workers was established outside the castle and over time, this grew into a settlement in its own right. By 1247 this settlement was granted a market and fair by royal permission. In 1244 Henry III ordered the whitewashing of the keep.

In December 1460, during the Wars of the Roses, Henry Beaufort and his army marched from the castle for the Battle of Wakefield. Taking part on 16 December 1460 in the Battle of Worksop, Nottinghamshire, Beaufort and the Lancastrians won the skirmish.





In 1572, Corfe Castle left the Crown's control when Elizabeth I sold it to Sir Christopher Hatton. Sir John Bankes bought the castle in 1635, and was the owner during the English Civil War. While Bankes was fighting in London and Oxford, his wife, Lady Mary Bankes, led the castle's defence when it was twice besieged by Parliamentarian forces. The first siege, in 1643, was unsuccessful, but by 1645 Corfe was one of the last remaining royalist strongholds in southern England and fell to a siege ending in an assault. In March that year Corfe Castle was slighted on Parliament's orders.

**CAS last visited Corfe Castle in 1994**

## Highlights from the Magazines

**Current World Archaeology Feb 2023-Mar 2023**

The City Thirsts - Water in Istanbul: Past, Present, and Future

The Priest of Pututus - Unearthing a Unique Andean Tomb

## FEATURES

Conjuring Mongolian Deer Stones - Biographical Statuary of Bronze Age Central Asia and South Siberia

The Man in the Parcel - Explaining a Puzzling Burial Rite in Gardby Church, Sweden

Clare Tuffy and Newgrange

Van Archaeology and Ethnography Museum

The British Institute at Ankara

Object - Inscribed Ivory Comb

### Minerva - Archaeology & Art Jan-Feb 2023

Painting Pompeii - The Triumph of Pompeii & Herculaneum's Frescoes

Caravan Kings - the Wealth, Influences & Connections of Uzbekistan's Oasis Cities.

Persia and Beyond - the Mythical Legacy of Alexander the Great in the East.

The Art of Power - the Depiction of Ahmose I to Horemheb, Kings in Egypt's 18<sup>th</sup> Dynasty

Shock and Awe - the Drawings and Paintings of Romantic-era Artist Henry Fuseli

Divine Intervention - Janus: Two-faced God of Beginnings

The Antiquarian - Hilda Petrie (1871-1956)

### British Archaeology Jan-Feb 2023

The Day Archaeogenetics came of Age: A Tribute to Svante Paabo

The Three Old Sheep of St Kilda

The Battle of Worcester - in Search of an English Civil War Battlefield

This is Archaeology - Impacting Heritage, Landscapes & Lives

Haworth Parsonage - At Home with the Brontes

Waterworks Cottage, Charlcombe, Bath

An Open-Access Excavation in Hull

The Mysterious Institute for Digital Archaeology

### Current Archaeology January 2023

Pitch Perfect - Tackling a previously unknown Roman Villa at Dings Crusaders RFC

Marks of Devotion - Exploring historic Graffiti in St Magnus Cathedral, Kirkwall

Not so Much a Residence as a Tradition - The Evolution of St James's Palace from Leper Hospital to Royal Court

The Sky's the Limit - Surveying the Aerial Photography of Harold Wingham

One of the Most Valuable Women that ever lived - Bath Abbey

Highlighting Hieroglyphs at the British Museum and the Petrie Museum.

Odd Socs - The London Gasketeers

### Current Archaeology February 2023

Excavating Weeley barracks - Echoes of the Napoleonic Wars in Essex

The Ness of Brodgar - Marking 20 years of Neolithic Discoveries

Return to Priors Hall - Exploring a Roman Villa Estate near Corby

## EVENTS & LINKS

Pondering Penywyrldod - In Search of the Early Origins of the Cotswold-Severn Long Cairn and Barrow Group

Saving a WW2 Heavy Anti-Aircraft Battery

Treason: People, Power, and Plot - A New Exhibition at the National Archives in London.

Odd Socs - The Corbett Society

## Quiz

1. Huge feline of Greek myth, killed by Hercules
2. City sacked by the Persians in 480BC
3. Archaeology programme once presented by Tony Robinson.
4. UNESCO World Heritage site in Mali
5. Procession honouring a victorious Roman general
6. .... Man, nickname given to Paranthropus boisei
7. Hubert ... (1911-2001), British archaeologist who specialised in the prehistory of Wales
8. Type of coarse Etruscan pottery from the Villanovan Period of northern Italy
9. Eastern Roman emperor, the brother of Honorius
10. Empire of Peru, in the period 750-1000AD

## Past Events

### Lecture: 1st December 2022

**Working within the Portable Antiquities Scheme in Wales, some discoveries and personal reflections.**

Mark Lodwick, PAS Finds Co-ordinator, Department of History and Archaeology, Amgueddfa Cymru, Cardiff.

Mark reflected over the 20 years of the PAS in Wales and his experiences of working for the PAS, highlighting some of the significant discoveries made over the period.

Recent times saw the appointment of an officer in Wrexham Museum (2017), a part-time and full-time member in Cardiff (2019). Whilst 2021 saw the Swansea office open with a part-timer in Carmarthen and an extra Intern role in Cardiff.

Successes over years could be measured in the discovery of a Bronze Age Midden site & the Iron Age metalwork found in North East Wales in the form of a lead ingot. There was further engagement during 2015-2020 in the Saving Treasures & Telling Stories with Outreach and volunteering. Over 65,300 finds had been recorded in Wales.

Other projects highlighted by Mark were the Lost Treasures of Swansea Bay, with shallow-water trackways and the discovery of an Early Bronze Age flint dagger. Other recorded finds included Bronze Age axes, spears, disc & cupheaded pins, Late Iron Age Turrets and penannular brooches, along with medieval pilgrim badges.

The Cowbridge Bronze Age Hoard included a rare bronze mould for palstave axeheads. Grosmont produced a Late Bronze Age Hoard; Llanmaes in the Vale of Glamorgan - cauldrons and axes. Finally we must not forget the ongoing Iron Age Chariot Burial.



## EVENTS & LINKS

### Lecture: 15th December 2022

#### **The Weymouth Ridgeway Vikings: The story of a mass grave from South Dorset.**

Dr. Heather M. Tamminem, Post-Doctoral Research Assistant, Department of Archaeology and Anthropology, Faculty of Science and Technology, Bournemouth University.

In 2009 Oxford Archaeology performed a brief over the Dorchester-Weymouth Road Improvements to cope with the expected extra Olympics traffic. What they found was a reused Roman quarry pit full of decapitated skeletons. There were also cut marks on most of the 52 skeletons. Dating from 970-1024 AD, who were they? It looked like Anglo-Saxon remnants of a Viking raid in England, but the isotopic analysis showed they were not from the UK.

It was determined that they were probably Viking, all male, aged 18-25, 166-170cm in height with robust skeletons. They had little previous injuries. Maybe they were a crew from a Viking longship.

The project tagged as the "Digital Dead" - had two areas of main research - method development and trauma reappraisal. Through the use of photogrammetry, 2D & 3D modelling and close range photography with dense point clouds it was hoped to shed more light on the events that happened.

It was determined that not all the victims were killed in the same manner, some had defensive trauma to the hands, some had additional blunt force trauma. Some had their throats cut.

The Project hopes to answer such questions as; who were the attackers; where were the Vikings captured; Why were they on the Ridgeway; How did the Vikings die; How were they deposited or buried?

### Lecture: 12th January 2023

#### **A Tale of Two Destructions: The Destruction of Settlements and the Ending of Political Communities in Hellenistic Crete**

Prof. James Whitley. SHARE, Cardiff University.

Using Praisos in Hellenistic Crete as a study case, James used his excavations to illustrate the main actions required for the destruction of a neighbouring political region or polis. Termed "κατασκάψαντες" or razing, the destruction consisted of 5 actions; the killing of male citizens; forced abandonment of the houses, with the enslavement of women and children; the destruction of sanctuaries and finally the cessation of legal authority. This seemed to indicate that the destroyer acted as a redeemer possessing authority, revenging some deviant activity. A symbolic means of social and political reproduction.

James illustrated that without these destructive actions a polis like Lyttos may return after its attempted destruction by Knossos. He also explained the destruction of Dreros in 183 BC, Apellonia by Kydonia in 170 BC and of Phaistos by Gortyn in 150 BC. There has been some remarkable discoveries of hidden polis legal inscriptions, some in the Greek script but in undecipherable eteocretan.

Finally, James explained the feasting element predominant in courtyard complexes of large building polises.

## Future Events

### Lectures

26th January 2023 Rachel Morgan, Senior Project Manager/Heritage Consultant, Red River Archaeology. **Updates on the Five Mile**

## EVENTS & LINKS

**Lane Excavations.** Members may recall hearing the preliminary results a few years ago of the excavations undertaken in 2017-8 by Rubicon Heritage Services at Five Mile Lane, Barry. This update of those results will highlight some of the intriguing findings which have arisen during post-excavation analysis of the archaeological material recovered and reveal further details of the lives of people in the Vale from the prehistoric period onwards.

9th February 2023 Prof. Vicki Cummings, School of Natural Sciences, University of Central Lancashire. **New research on the Neolithic of the Northern Isles of Orkney.**

This lecture presents the results of recent work in the Northern Isles of Orkney. Over the past few years new excavations have explored two Neolithic sites on Sanday: an early Neolithic settlement at Cata Sand and, just a short distance away, the chambered tomb at Tresness. These excavations have provided important insights into life on the Northern Isles in the early Neolithic. We have new information on the first farmers to arrive in these islands, as well as evidence for wider, ongoing connections throughout the early Neolithic. These were not people living on the edge of the Neolithic world, but at the centre of a vibrant and successful archipelago well-suited to an agricultural lifestyle, and very much in touch with wider Neolithic communities.

23rd February 2023 Dr. Andy Seaman, Lecturer in Early Medieval Archaeology, SHARE, Cardiff University. **Hillforts and Hilltop Settlement in Late Antique Western Britain: Fifty Years on from Arthur's Britain.** Lesley Alcock's *Arthur's Britain* was the first serious attempt to write a synthesis of the archaeology of the western Britain in the fifth to seventh centuries AD. In this talk I will examine a key theme that arose from this book, evidence for the (re)occupation of hillforts and hill-top settlements, and consider where we are

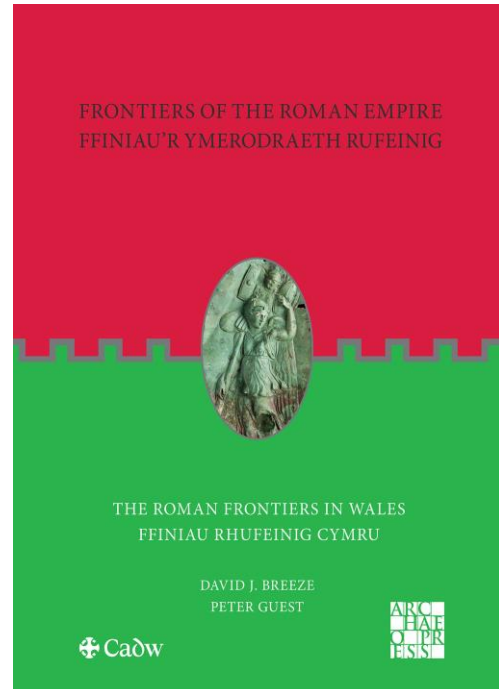
with these sites half a century on from the publication of *Arthur's Britain*.

9th March 2023

**Annual General Meeting.**

## Links to Websites

Open Access eBooks :



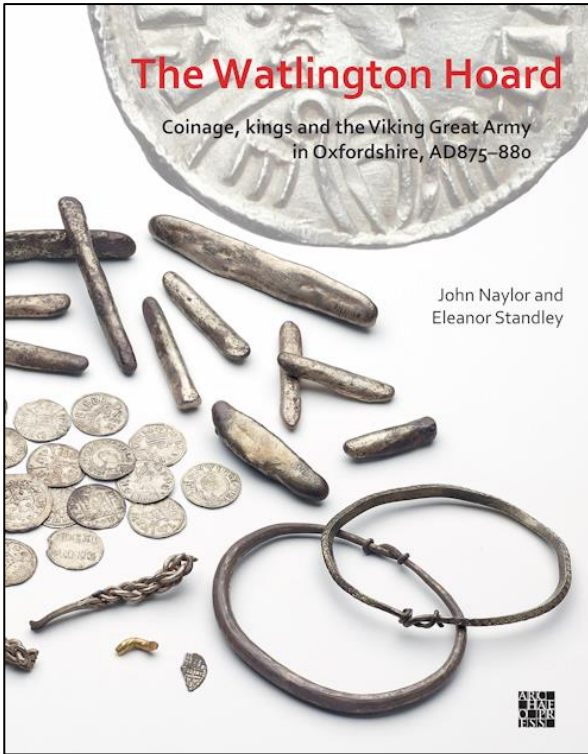
### Frontiers of the Roman Empire: the Roman frontiers in Wales - David J Breeze & Peter Guest

The remains of the Roman frontiers in Wales are unique in the Roman Empire. More than 60 stone and timber fortresses, forts and fortlets, some of which seem to have been occupied for only a few years, while others remained in use for far longer, tell the story of the long and brutal war against the Celtic tribes.

<https://www.archaeopress.com/Archaeopress/Products/9781803272917>

## EVENTS & LINKS

### The Watlington Hoard



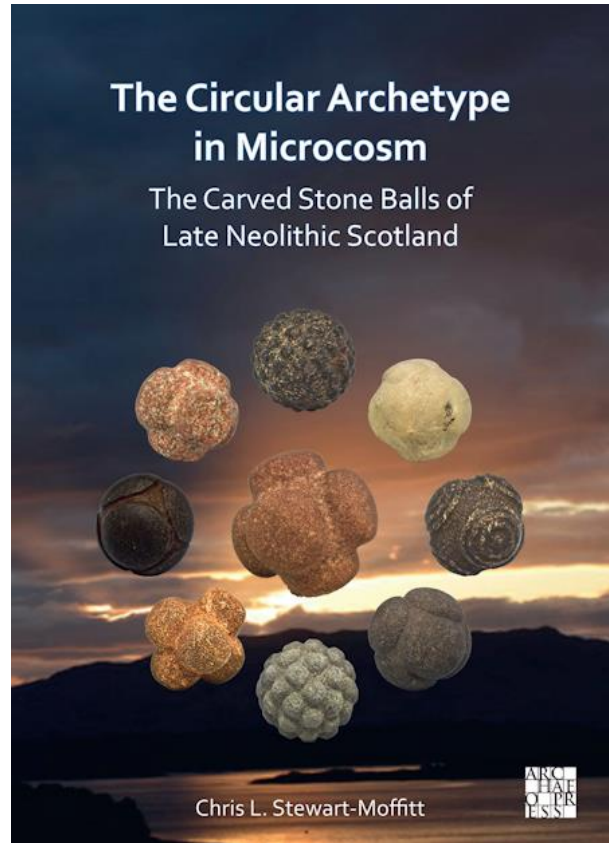
Presenting the complete publication of the objects and coins in the Watlington Hoard, the authors discuss its wider implications for our understanding of hoarding in late 9th-century southern Britain, interactions between the kingdoms of Wessex and Mercia, and the movements of the Viking *Great Army* after the Battle of Edington in 878.

The Watlington Hoard was discovered in southern Oxfordshire in 2015 by a metal-detectorist, and acquired by the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford in 2017. A nationally-important find of coinage and metalwork, and the first major Viking-Age hoard from the county, it dates from the late 870s, a fundamental and tumultuous period in Britain's history. The contents of the hoard include a highly significant collection of over 200 silver pennies, mostly of Alfred the Great, king of Wessex, and Ceolwulf II, king of Mercia, transforming our understanding of the coinage in this period, and 23 silver and gold pieces of contemporary metalwork much of which was derived from Scandinavia.

Cardiff Archaeological Society  
Page 14

<https://www.archaeopress.com/Archaeopress/Products/9781789698299>

### The Circular Archetype in Microcosm: The Carved Stone Balls of Late Neolithic Scotland



This study is the culmination of seven years research into the Carved Stone Balls of Late Neolithic Scotland. It is the first study of these enigmatic artefacts since that undertaken by Dorothy Marshall in 1977 and includes all currently known examples in both museums and private hands, described and analysed in considerable detail

<https://www.archaeopress.com/Archaeopress/Products/9781803271262>

### Recorded Previous Lectures:



### The Lost Library of Llanthony

Feb 2023/Mar 2023 Issue



## EVENTS & LINKS

In the medieval period, the scholars of Llanthony Secunda Priory were responsible for the creation of a very special library that is still considered one of the richest and best-documented medieval English book collections in the country. This remarkable library is no longer in Gloucester but is scattered across the world, and this new documentary film traces the stories the books tell, how they were created, and how they survived almost certain destruction. Dive deeper into Llanthony Secunda's history, enrich your knowledge of the priory's fascinating past, and see how it would have looked in the early-sixteenth century. For the first time, this documentary reconstructs the priory's once extensive buildings in a 3D flyby animation.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ahKyk6ApxqM>



### Hunter Gatherers in the Severn Estuary: Ice Age to 4000BC

**Professor Martin Bell**, Emeritus Professor of Archaeology at University of Reading, describes the evidence for human occupation of the Severn Estuary during warm periods (interglacials) over the last million years, which enables us to reconstruct the lives of these communities and the ever changing environment that supported their way of life..

<https://www.livinglevels.org.uk/online-talks-recordings/hunter-gatherers-in-the-severn-estuary-ice-age-to-4000bc>



### "Friends, Rovers, Countrymen"

Senior Project Officer, Mark Brett, talks to Gloucestershire Archaeology on the Forest Green Rovers excavations at Eastington near Stroud, in Gloucestershire.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GIANfJxKAv8>



### Six Years of Discovery at the Edge of Wales: The CHERISH Project

The Royal Commission's 2022 Christmas Lecture - Promontory Forts, Shipwrecks and Island Landscapes by the CHERISH Project Team Since 2017 the EU-Funded CHERISH Climate Change and Coastal Heritage Project has been working at the very edge of Wales and Ireland raising awareness and understanding of the past, present and near-future impacts of climate change on the rich heritage of our sea and coast. This groundbreaking project, deploying a combined team of archaeologists, geographers and marine specialists, has worked at some of the most iconic coastal location in Wales and Ireland from Anglesey to Stackpole and to Dublin Bay and the Ring of Kerry. The talk will provide an overview and highlights of their work, including Grassholm and Skomer Islands in Pembrokeshire, shipwrecks and peat deposits in the intertidal zone near Abersoch and Dinas Dinlle coastal hillfort in Gwynedd.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aAr4XLetmFE>

## EVENTS & LINKS

### Discovering Wallpaintings in Welsh Churches by Richard Suggett

Cambrian Archaeological Association Christmas lecture in partnership with the Royal Commission 2022. Wallpaintings are an ephemeral but unexpectedly resilient and revealing form of decoration. This talk explores some of the themes in the Royal Commission's recent book, *Painted Temples: Wallpaintings and Rood-screens in Welsh Churches, 1200-1800*. The talk offers an overview of painted decoration in Welsh churches, charting some profound visual changes that occurred before and after the Reformation. Wallpaintings can still surprise, instruct, and entertain - as the many images used in this lecture will show.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B0rmbNiwWx4>

### CHERISH Armchair Walk: A Guided Tour of Flimston Promontory Fort

Join us for a guided tour of Flimston Promontory Fort from the comfort of your home. The CHERISH project team have been researching this incredible Iron Age site, with its central limestone "cauldron", for the last 6 years. Now Dr Toby Driver and Hannah Genders Boyd will show us around, discussing the latest research as well as threats to the site's future. Flimston Promontory Fort is on the limestone coast of south Pembrokeshire, in an area peppered with prehistoric monuments. This coast is also home to incredible geological formations, including the Green Bridge of Wales and the Elegug Stacks. This tour will be an opportunity to hear more about the period of the site's use, and ask any questions you have about life in the Iron Age or about the work of CHERISH.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a4fKkLmwvqc>



**Clwyd-Powys Archaeological  
Trust**

### The First Stones: Penywyrlod, Gwernvale and the Black Mountains Neolithic Long Cairns of SE Wales

The talk is based on the volume recently published by Oxbow Books which looks at the important cluster of early Neolithic burial monuments in the Black Mountains area in the south-eastern corner of Powys, built between 4000-3500 BC, and touches upon how they were used, their symbolism, and their relationship with the world of the living.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fYSkI-gB2Cs>

## Answers to Quiz

1. Nemean Lion
2. Athens
3. Time Team
4. Timbuktu
5. Triumph
6. Nutcracker
7. Savory
8. Impasto
9. Arcadius
10. Wari