



CARDIFF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY CYMDEITHAS ARCHEOLEGOL CAERDYDD

Registered Charity No. 225579

Oct 2024/Nov 2024 Issue

CAS TRIPS 2024 Cont.

**Churches and Castles at Ewyas Harold,
Kilpeck & Abbey Dore - 3rd August**

Ewyas Harold



After meeting for coffee in the local Memorial Hall we met our guide David Whitehead, Past President of the Woolhope Club, and made the short walk to St Michael & All Angels Church for an introduction to the history of the area. A sharp climb up the hill to the location of Ewyas Harold castle gave us commanding views over the vale. The castle now covered in trees consisted of a high motte and a large bailey. Unable to go any further we remained in the upper bailey to hear a history of the castle's construction.

The first castle on the site is believed to be one of the very few which were built under the Saxons before the Norman Conquest. This

structure was likely raised in 1048, possibly by Osbern Pentecost, on the site of an earlier fortification, likely a Saxon burg built during the 10th century.

In 1052 the original castle was destroyed, but following the Norman Conquest it was rebuilt by William Fitz Osbern, Earl of Hereford. The castle fell into partial decay until the early 15th century when William Beauchamp, Lord Abergavenny, refortified it.

The castle again fell into ruin by 1645, and today only earthworks remain on the edge of the village to mark where it once stood.

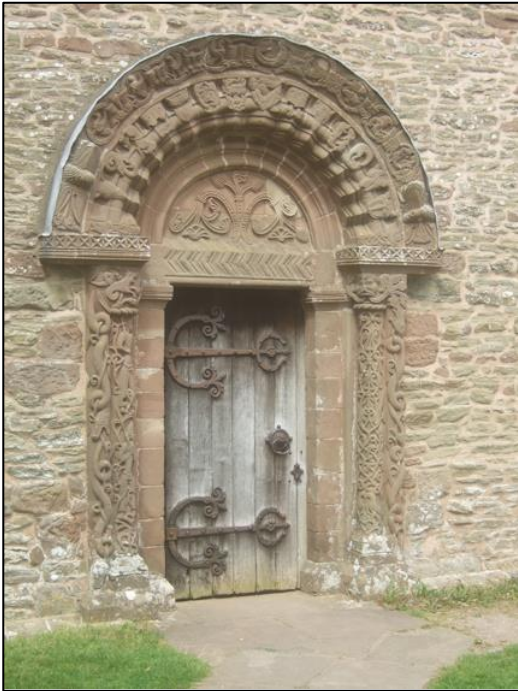


Kilpeck

The village is renowned for its small but outstanding Norman Romanesque church, SS Mary and David's, but also has the earthworks of a Norman motte-and-bailey castle that is no longer standing.

FEATURES

Centring on the Kilpeck Inn, formerly the Red Lion, situated in the centre of the village we parked opposite the village green to view the quaint church with its outstandingly decorated porchway.



The Church was built around 1140 and consists of a nave, chancel and semi-circular apse. It is remarkable for its wealth of Norman stone carvings and their fine state of preservation, both inside and out, all original both in form and position, incorporating 85 corbels with representations of human faces, hares, fish, fowl, and stags.

Close to the church lies a ruined motte and bailey with earthworks. The castle is thought to have been first built around 1090. A few walls of the 12th- or 13th-century keep still stand on top of the motte but these are not well preserved. A fireplace and chimney flues are visible, as are two sections of standing castle walls.



And some found time to meet new friends.

Abbey Dore

So on via a very narrow, winding lane we came upon our final visit of the day, the stunning Dore Abbey. The present church was once the chancel, crossing, transepts, chapels and ambulatory of a medieval Cistercian monastery.



The monks first came here in 1147. The profits from the sale of wool paid for the church to be enlarged in the 13th and 14th Century. After the Dissolution of the Monasteries by King Henry VIII, the current building was saved from total destruction and was restored in the 1630s by John, Viscount Scudamore. It is a rare, surviving example of a Laudian Church.

Among the many points to note are the lovely bosses, the original high altar top, the 17th Century carved screen, the newly restored stained glass and the wall texts.



A Walking Tour of Medieval Bristol – 7th September

A major first for CAS as this was our first venture on the Railways to reach a location.

We took in many sites, some more accessible than others and some only through the visible exteriors. Many actually now were non-existent but those that had been subject to excavation by our guide as City Archaeologist were ably brought back to life again by his descriptions.



The Morning consisted of a extensive line-up of visits to: Church of St Mary Redcliffe, Hospital of St John the Baptist (site), Redcliffe Gate (site), Canynge's House, Canynge's Glassworks (site and Exhibition), St Thomas the Martyr, The Temple Church, The Castle & St Martin's Chapel.

In the Afternoon we continued on to:

43 Broad Street, St John the Baptist (on the wall), graveyard, crypt and nave, St Lawrence's (on the wall) (site), St Giles' Church (on the wall) and St Giles' Gate (sites), John Foster's House, John Smyth's House/Guildhall, Everard's Printing Works, St Werburgh's Church.

To finish off a magnificent day we ended with Après-tour teas at the nearby St Nicholas Market.





Highlights from the Magazines

British Archaeology Sept-Oct 2024



Death in Dorset - A Human Sacrifice from the British Iron Age

Putting Tintagel in Context

Lovely LiDAR - the Public Availability of the most Important Recent Development in Landscape Archaeology

Making, Understanding, Storytelling - Experimental Archaeology

The Harley Collection - the Shared History of Interpretation between Archaeologists & Artists

FEATURES

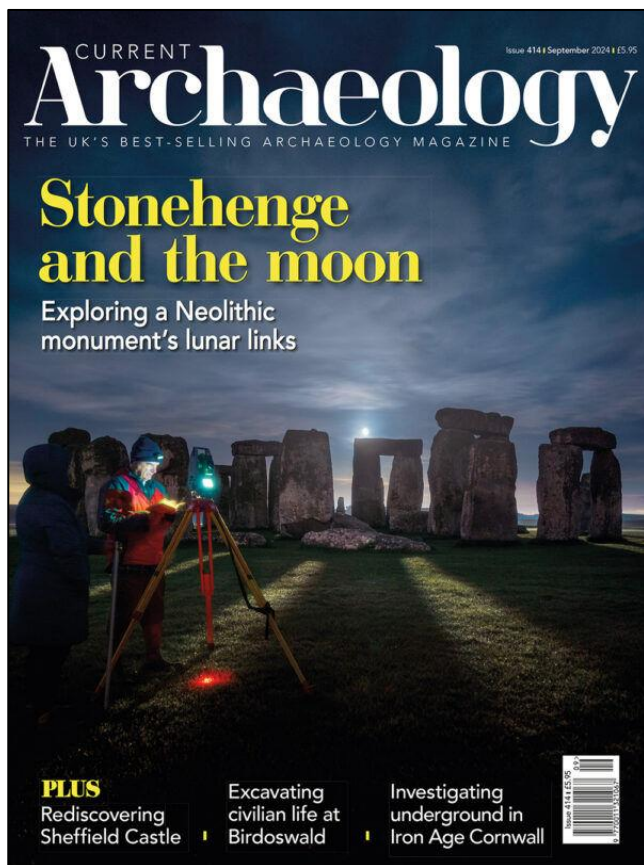
Lords of the Atlas - Palace of Glaoui, Morocco

Penzance - Listed Building Casework

Young Archaeologists Club is Definitely Fun, but is it Impactful

Underestimate Experimental Archaeology?

Current Archaeology Sept 2024



Underground, Overground - Excavating an Iron Age Fogou & Romano-British Remains at Boden

Birdoswald And Beyond - Investigating an extramural Settlement on Hadrian's Wall

From Stronghold to Steel City - Uncovering the Birthplace of Sheffield

Orchards in England - A Landscape History

Illuminating Anglesey - Echoes of a Later Prehistoric Ritualised Landscape at Bedd y Foel
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Stonehenge and the Moon - Exploring a Neolithic Monument's Lunar Links

Science Notes: Reading Roman Water Mills using Carbonate Deposits

Time Team at Sutton Hoo

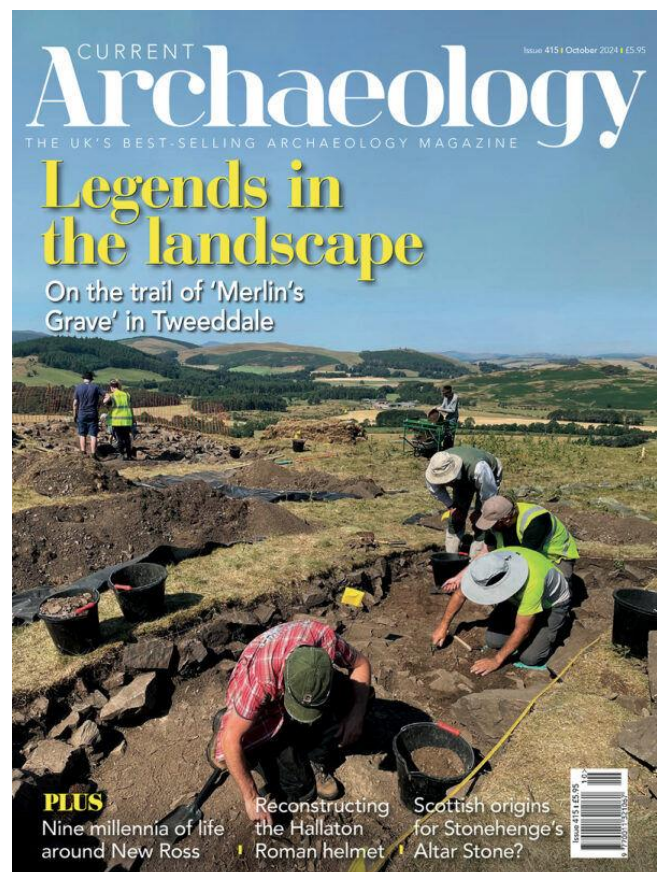
Commanding the Coast - Pendinas Hillfort, Cardigan Bay

Six Lives at the National Portrait Gallery, London

Museum of Cornish Life, Helston: a New Archaeology Display

Odd Socs - The Hymn Society of Great Britain & Ireland

Current Archaeology Oct 2024



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FEATURES

Nine Millennia of Life on the Banks of the Goodly Barrow - Archaeological Excavations on the N25 New Ross Bypass in South-east Ireland

How to Restore a Manor - Breathing Life back into Northwold Manor

Roman Replicas - Recreating the Hallaton Helmet

Unearthing Ancient Tweeddale, Drumelzier - Merlin's Grave & other Lost Stories embedded in the Landscape

A Home for Hunter-gatherers - Reconstructing Britain's Oldest House at the Yorkshire Museum

Science Notes: Exeter's Cutting-edge Scans of Roman Medical Instruments

Finds Tray - Early Medieval Harness Pendant

Scottish Origins for the Stonehenge Altar Stone

Chalking it up - The Uffington White Horse

Star Carr - Life after the Ice at the Yorkshire Museum

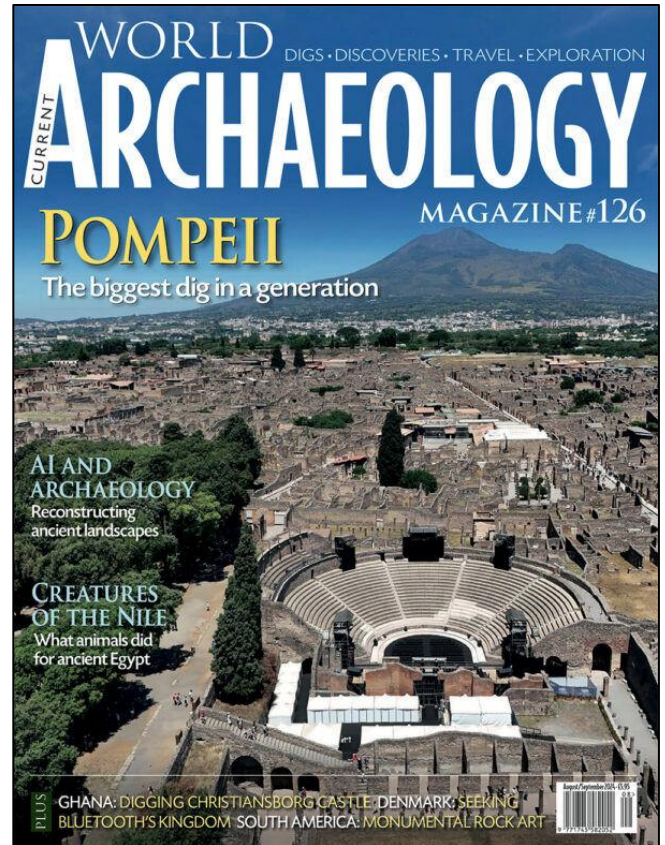
Odd Socs - The Coker Rope & Sail Trust

World Archaeology Aug-Sep 2024

Monumental Rock Art in South America - Venezuela & Colombia Update

A Remarkable Painted Tomb in Dahshur Cemetery Egypt

Pompeii - Unearthing Insula 10



Creatures of the Nile - What Animals did for Ancient Egypt

Autoarchaeology at Christiansborg Castle, Ghana - Digging into Ancestral Connections to the Transatlantic Slave Trade

Artificial Intelligence Re-thinks the Past - how Computers are reconstructing Etruscan & Roman Landscapes

Bluetooth's Kingdom, Denmark

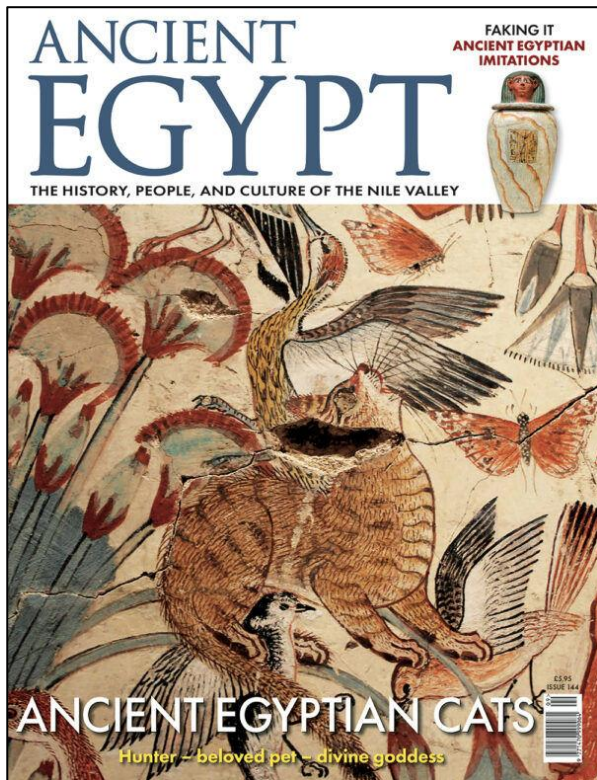
Picture World: Greek, Maya & Moche Pottery - an Exhibition at the Getty Villa Museum

Tracing the Origins of Chocolate

Early Humans - Interbreeding & International Travel

Object - Palaeolithic Rope-making Tool

Ancient Egypt Jul-Aug 2024



Flinders Petrie & the Discovery of Early Egypt

Faking It - The New Kingdom's Faux-Stone Funerary Vessels

The Tale of an Amarna Fresco

Working Women - the Role of Women in the Ancient Egyptian Workforce

Beyond Ethnicity - Collective Identities in New Kingdom Sources

Abu Rowash - a Foreign Royal Necropolis of the Early Old Kingdom

The Cat in Ancient Egypt

Egypt & How to See it in 1912

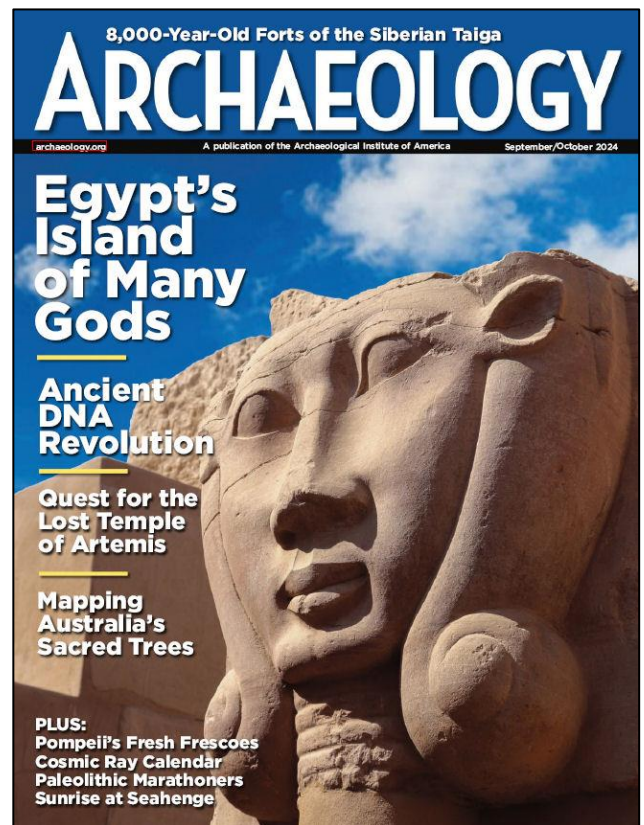
Lights, Camera, Action - a Guide around four recently-opened to the Public Theban Tombs

Object - Relief of Nebhepetra Mentuhotep

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And in America:

Archaeology Sep-Oct 2024



Hunting for the Lost Temple of Artemis

Trees of the Sky World - why Australia's Indigenous Wiradjuri people carved sacred symbols into trees to mark burials of their honoured dead

The People before the Book - a Trove of Papyri unearthed on the Egyptian island of Elephantine

Ancient DNA Revolution - the Rapidly Evolving Field of Archaeogenetics

Pompeii Style - Inside the Roman Houses to Discover Evocative New Masterpieces

Strongholds of the Taiga - Hunter-gathers in the Forest of Northern Russia

Artefact - Paleolithic Sewing Kit

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EVENTS & LINKS

Quiz

1. The Son of Daedalus in Greek Mythology
2. Surname of William ..., British Antiquary & Author of "Avebury" (1743)
3. Visigoth King who captured Rome in AD 410
4. Name given to Timber Circle on the Norfolk Coast discovered in 1998
5. The City in which the Topkapi Palace & the Blue Mosque are located
6. The Egyptian Goddess of Truth and Order
7. Name of the Biblical craft associated with the Great Flood
8. The Mesopotamian City-state conquered by the Medes in 614 BC
9. The Soft Mineral used to make Plaster of Paris
10. The Mexican State which is the location of the Mitla Archaeological Site

Future Events

CAS Lectures

3rd October 2024 - Excavations at the Llancadle South II Cemetery and the Early Medieval Landscape of the Fonmon Castle.

Dr Andy Seaman, Lecturer in Early Medieval Archaeology, SHARE, Cardiff University

This talk will present initial results from the first 4 years of the Fonmon Castle Landscape Archaeology Project, focusing on excavations at

the Llancadle South II early medieval cemetery. The cemetery forms part of a wider complex of early medieval activity within the demesne of the later medieval castle, and displays unusual features, including multiple enclosures, a diversity of burial practice, and high-status material, including imported glass.

17th October 2024 - Towards an archaeology of board games in Roman society.

Dr Timothy Penn, Faculty of Classics, University of Oxford.

Board games are not a new phenomenon: they originate at least as early as ancient Egypt, but they've only started to be studied seriously by archaeologists relatively recently. This means we're now starting to learn lots of interesting new things about the ways that Roman people played games and had fun. This talk considers some of the most exciting lessons that emerge from looking at the archaeological evidence for board games in Roman society.

31st October 2024 - Waterloo Uncovered: Combining world-class archaeology on the Waterloo battlefield with veteran care and recovery.

Sam Wilson, Archaeologist, Waterloo Uncovered.

Waterloo Uncovered is a registered UK charity that combines a world-class archaeology project on the battlefield of Waterloo with a support programme for veterans and the military community. Working in partnership with some of Europe's top universities, and through the unique perspective of a team comprised of archaeologists, veterans and serving soldiers,

EVENTS & LINKS

Waterloo Uncovered aims to understand war and its impact on people - and to educate the public about it.

14th November 2024 - Beyond Egypt's Southern Frontier: Nubia and the Kingdom of Meroë.

Dr Henry Bishop Wright, Research Associate, SHARE, Cardiff University.

Throughout the history of pharaonic Egypt, the area of present-day Aswan marked the frontier with Egypt's southern neighbour, Nubia. By the end of the 1st millennium BC, the northernmost stretch of Nubia was the primary commercial corridor linking Ptolemaic Egypt with the independent Kingdom of Meroë (c. 300 BC - AD 350) that controlled the Nile Valley to the south (present-day Sudan). This talk provides an accessible introduction to the archaeology of Meroë and explores the results of its interaction (material-cultural) with Egypt and the wider Hellenistic-Roman worlds.

Once were Vikings?: New Archaeologies of Today's Viking Worlds. - 28th November 2024

Professor Howard Williams BSc MA PhD FSA, Professor of Archaeology, University of Chester.

The 'Vikings' remain a topic of popular public enthusiasm and academic contention and implicate a wide range of archaeological research and heritage sites, monuments and landscapes. This presentation will explore recent debates surrounding the interpretation of the Viking Age and their use and misuse in politics and popular culture. I will argue for the need for a systematic overhaul of both (a) how we conduct our academic interdisciplinary

research in the public gaze and share our results about the Viking period, as well as (b) how we investigate contemporary Viking receptions and engage with public debates on the significance of the Vikings today. Both dimensions have ethical and sociopolitical ramifications and involve actively combating old and new misinformation and actively promoted disinformation about 'the Vikings' in contemporary society via sustained and responsible strategies. I'll use a range of case studies of how we might do this better.

Links to Open Access Books



Open Access downloads from Archaeology Reports Online:



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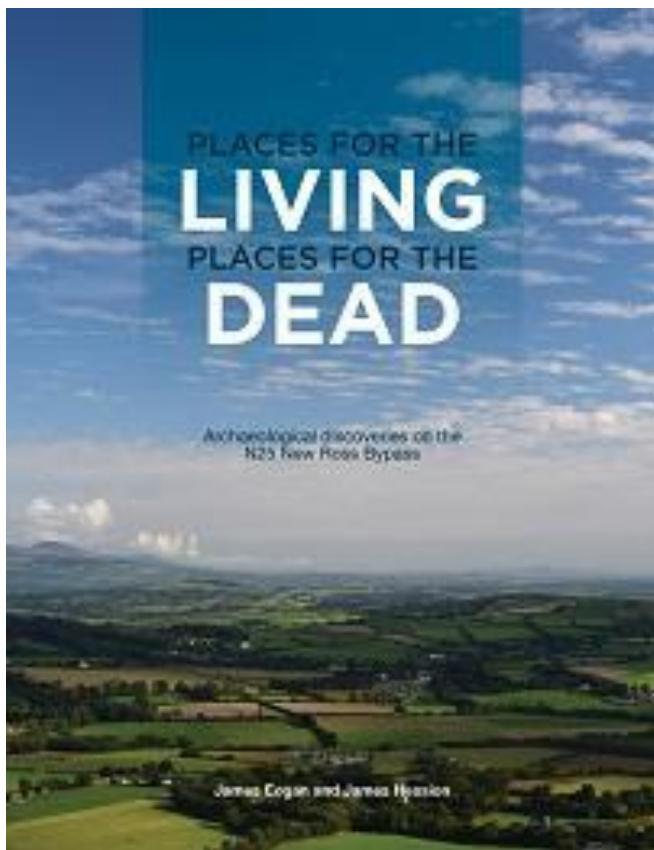
EVENTS & LINKS

ARO56: Unearthing ancient Tweeddale : Tinnis Castle, Thirlestane Barrows and Merlin's Grave

By Ronan Toolis, Amanda Gilmore, Thomas Muir, Laura Muser and Alun Woodward

Excavations at Tinnis revealed traces of early prehistoric activity, a Late Iron Age vitrified fort, an early medieval nucleated fort and a medieval castle while a geophysics survey over the reputed site of Merlin's Grave revealed a pit or grave nearby. The excavation of the Thirlestane Barrows south of Broughton revealed that a Late Iron Age Square Barrow was added to a Middle Bronze Age barrow cemetery.

<https://www.archaeologyreportsonline.com/reports/2024/ARO56.html>



Places for the Living, Places for the Dead: archaeological discoveries on the N25 New Ross Bypass

The medieval town of New Ross was founded in the early 13th century by Isabella de Clare and William Marshal. It was strategically located at the lowest bridging point on the River Barrow. By the early 21st century the historic town and its bridge were regularly clogged by traffic. The New Ross Bypass was developed to relieve traffic congestion and to improve the urban environment. Over almost two decades, during the design phases for the bypass and prior to and during construction, a programme of systematic archaeological surveys and excavations were carried out. This led to the discovery of almost 40 previously undocumented archaeological sites along the route of the bypass in counties Kilkenny and Wexford.

Alongside detailed reports on the results of eight key excavations, this book provides an overview of the archaeology of this region and shows how the remains uncovered on the bypass route deepen our understanding of human activity in the lower Barrow Valley over almost nine millennia. Chapters written by experts in their fields consider different topics and periods in greater detail. Including, the palaeoenvironmental background of the sites uncovered, the nature and range of evidence for the first farmers and early metal-using societies in the region, the impact of Anglo-Norman colonisation and the establishment of a feudal economy in the area, and the evidence for effects of post-medieval and early modern landlordism on the landscape.

The book is richly illustrated with more than 140 photographs, plans and drawings, and includes eight specially commissioned artistic visualisations.

<https://www.tii.ie/technical-services/archaeology/publications/tii-heritage>

Links to Websites



Time Team Official

Modbury Community Dig - Time Team (Devon) 2024

For our latest three-day dig, Time Team joins forces with the people of Modbury to uncover their dramatic history. We hunt for clues throughout the town, in attics in living rooms, and under brand new lawns. We're looking for evidence of Civil Wars that raged through the town in the 17th century.

Time Team are joined by Jim Stetson, whose family sat at the heart of the community before they left for America to find their fortune making hats. But will we piece together the dramatic ups and downs of Modbury and its fascinating history? We have just three days to do it!

Day 1:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qIW9EfIPUEI>

Day 2:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BVY8Z9RyI_E&t=0s

Day 3:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CfQrtT5s9PY&t=0s>

Time Team Live at Sutton Hoo: Final Day with Tony Robinson

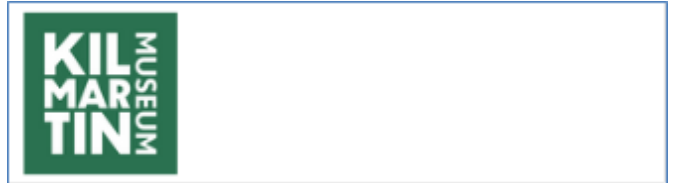
It's the final day of Time Team's historic dig at Sutton Hoo, in partnership with the National Trust. Sir Tony Robinson returns for another

live show, alongside many Time Team regulars, transmitted direct from the site.

Throughout June, Time Team has been, investigating Garden Field, a little explored part of the site, in addition to carrying out testpitting in the wider landscape.

It has been a thrilling excavation, and this time we only had four weeks to do it!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5wGTpGIV1MY>



The Poltalloch jet jewellery in context: examining supernatural power dressing

The magnificent spacer-plate necklace and bracelet of jet and jet-like materials that is currently on display in Kilmartin Museum, on loan from National Museums Scotland, was once the treasured possession of a high-ranking woman buried in the Glen. Made between 2200 BC and 2000 BC, this jewellery has an amazing story to tell, not only about the specialist Whitby jetworkers who made the necklace in the first place, but also about the well-connected people who buried their important dead in imposing tombs in the Glen during its 'Golden Age', and about the woman with whom it had been buried. In this lecture, Dr Alison Sheridan (Research Associate, National Museums Scotland) will also explore the beliefs surrounding the use of jet (and of the other similar-looking materials that were used as substitutes) - it could well have been believed to have magical powers, and thus constitute a kind of 'supernatural power dressing', protecting the deceased during her journey to the Afterlife. The life story of the necklace will be recounted, and its relationship to the other

EVENTS & LINKS

examples of Early Bronze Age spacer-plate jewellery in Scotland and further afield.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fb0v4ZI72A>

Glimpses of Iron Age beliefs? The Ballachulish wooden figure and other puzzles

In 1880, a remarkable wooden figure was pulled from the peat at Ballachulish, just north of Glencoe, overlooking Loch Leven. This stylised, almost life-size depiction of a woman has inspired speculation and debate ever since. Did she represent a goddess? A mortal? An ancestor? Why was she made, and why was she buried? To try to answer these questions, Dr Fraser Hunter (Principal Curator of Prehistoric and Roman Archaeology at National Museums Scotland) will review the figure herself, the wider picture of prehistoric wooden figures across Europe, and the traces that people in the Iron Age left behind of their beliefs.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=viAb9U2hkho>



"A Bronze Age Barrow Cemetery at Picket Twenty" with Sharon Clough and Alistair Barclay

Five beautiful Bronze Age barrows, a possible mortuary house, cremation burials, and a rare Beaker grave... Hampshire's Picket 20 revealed a landscape that was once a focus for funerary activity, then suddenly avoided for the next 1000 years. But why?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bIze5tRjEV4>



The Roman Caldicot Level & Roman Caerleon

Dr Mark Lewis, curator of the National Roman Legion Museum, Amgueddfa Cymru, describes the Roman legionary fortress at Caerleon and its impact on the development of the Gwent Levels. This talk features the premier of a new digital reconstruction of the Roman Levels and the Legionary Fortress.

<https://www.livinglevels.org.uk/online-talks-recordings/2023/3/24/roman-caerleon>

Answers to Quiz

1. Icarus 2. Stukeley 3. Alaric 4. Seahenge 5. Istanbul 6. Maat 7. Noahs Ark 8. Assyria 9. Gypsum 10. Oaxaca