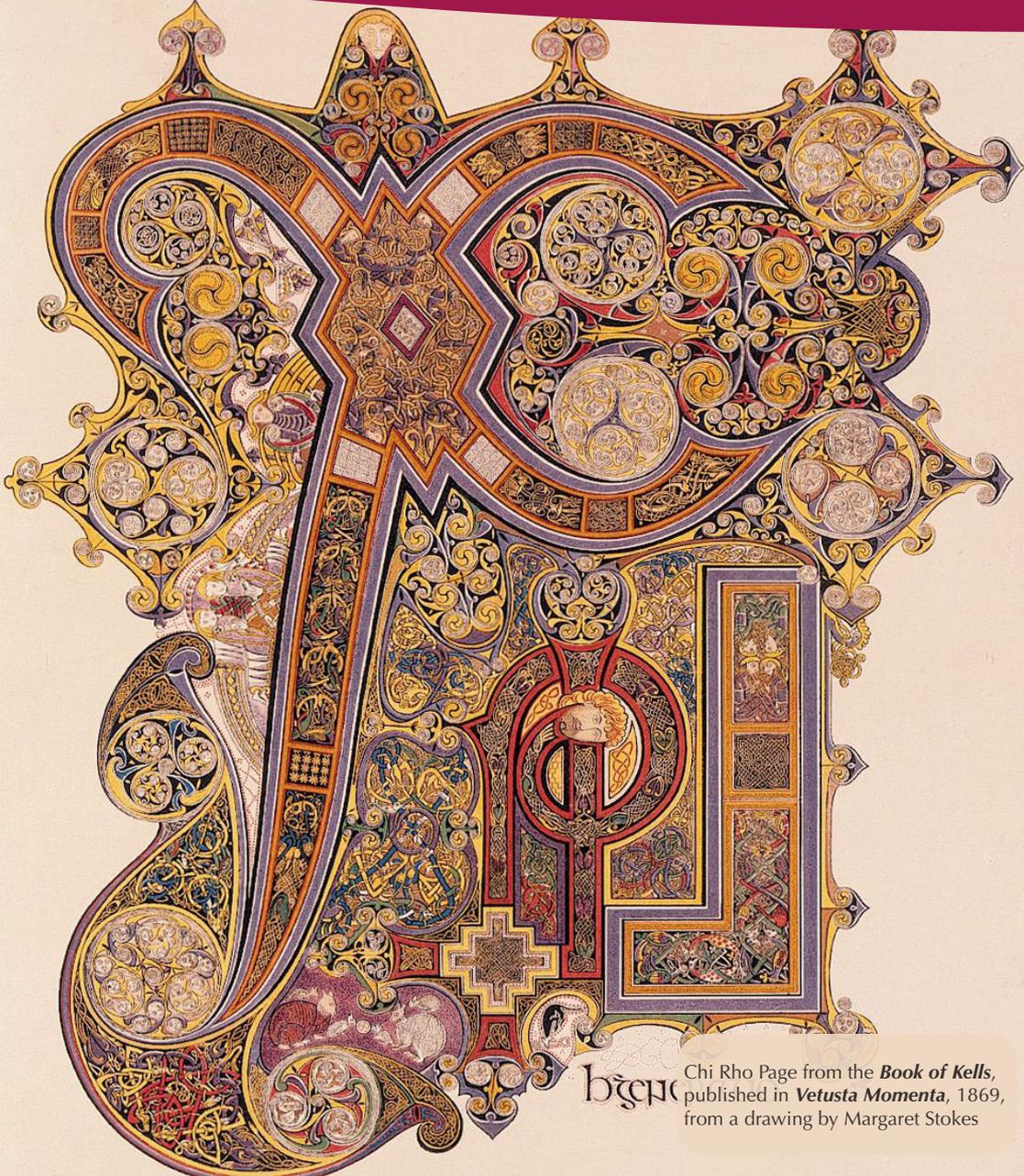


Registered Charity (207237)

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF LONDON

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS JANUARY–JUNE 2021



Chi Rho Page from the *Book of Kells*, published in *Vetusta Monumenta*, 1869, from a drawing by Margaret Stokes

LIST OF ORDINARY MEETINGS

04 FEBRUARY

Chariots in the landscape of East Yorkshire – recent discoveries at Pocklington and region

by Dr Peter Halkon FSA & Paula Ware

11 FEBRUARY

A Well-recorded people – The Chelsea Out-pensioners in the Early Eighteenth Century

by Andrew Cormack FSA

18 FEBRUARY *Results of Postal and Electronic Ballot

The Early Medieval Eye and Insular Art. The Codex Amiatinus, the Book of Kells, and the scholarship of Jennifer O'Reilly

by Dr Carol Farr FSA

25 FEBRUARY:

The Stonehenge Hidden Landscapes Project and the Durrington Walls Pits Circle

by Prof Vincent Gaffney FSA

04 MARCH

OUT OF LONDON MEETING IN CARDIFF

The first stones: Penywyrlod and Gwernvale in their early Neolithic context

by William Britnell FSA & Professor Alasdair Whittle FSA

11 MARCH

Anglo-Saxon hydraulic engineering in the Fens

by Prof Michael Chisholm FSA

18 MARCH

Recent fieldwork on hillforts and other earthworks in Wales

by Paul Belford FSA

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OUT OF LONDON MEETING IN EXETER

Early Medieval Glassmaking at Glastonbury and Barking Abbeys; craft working and the early church in the 7th to 8th centuries AD

by Dr Hugh Willmott FSA

08 APRIL

The Viking Phenomenon: Paradigms, Parameters, and Progress

by Prof Neil Price FSA

22 APRIL: ANNIVERSARY MEETING

President's Annual Address

COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS

This programme may be subject to change depending on any new regulations made by the Government. All events are scheduled to take place via Zoom and if restrictions ease in the near future we may be able to have limited attendance at Burlington House.

ATTENDANCE AT BURLINGTON HOUSE

If regulations allow we may be able to have in-person attendance at our lectures and events. This will be kept under review and will be subject to any restrictions imposed by Government in response to COVID-19.

If attendance at Burlington House is permitted numbers at our lectures will be limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Registration for these places will be through our website. However all lectures will be live streamed either via Zoom or directly to our YouTube channel. Both our public and Fellows' lectures will be streamed and are open to anyone to join us online, numbers are unlimited.

Those attending Burlington House will be subject to temperature checks before being admitted. Hand sanitiser stations will be available at the Society.

BALLOTING PROCEDURES

Balloting resumed in October 2020. This has been achieved via online voting through the website and postal votes. In-person balloting is temporarily suspended.

The results of the ballots will be read at the beginning of the specified meetings and published online.

Online ballots close at noon on the date of the scheduled ballot

SIGNING AND GUESTS

Fellows and guests will be signed into the Attendance Book by a member of staff. While restrictions remain in place Fellows cannot bring guests to Burlington House.

CATERING

Unfortunately, we are not able to provide any catering facilities during this period.

LIBRARY

The Library is currently closed but if permitted we will reopen in line with Government guidelines.

A reduced opening will continue while necessary and booking will still be mandatory. For more information please contact the Library team by email library@sal.org.uk

The Society is taking every precaution to ensure the health and wellbeing of all our staff, Fellows, and visitors to Burlington House.

WELSH REGIONAL FELLOWS LECTURE

22 JANUARY | 14:00–15:00

High Resolution Pollen Analysis and the End of Roman Wales: Preliminary Results of the Manifestations of Empire Project

by Dr Andrew Seaman FSA & Dr Tudur Davies

This lecture will present the preliminary results of the AHRC-funded Manifestations of Empire project. The extent of social and political change occurring at the end of Roman imperial control in Britain during the early-fifth century AD has been widely debated by scholars, with opposing theories arguing either for abrupt change or degrees of continuity into later centuries. Palaeoenvironmental evidence has contributed to this debate, but has largely relied on upland peat bogs that are a considerable distance from core settlement zones, and sequences that have poor chronological resolution. To address this imbalance, the Manifestations of Empire project examines spatial variation in land use through pollen analysis within a Romanised lowland study area in south-east Wales. The results of this research focus on Romano-British and early medieval pollen sequences, with specific emphasis on examining patterns of arable and pastoral land use in association with indicators of woodland expansion and decline.

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ORDINARY MEETING / EVENING LECTURE

04 FEBRUARY | 17:00–18:00

Chariots in the landscape of East Yorkshire – recent discoveries at Pocklington and region

by Dr Peter Halkon FSA & Paula Ware

Since 2014, excavations at Pocklington in East Yorkshire, not previously known for its archaeology, have produced spectacular discoveries, the most significant being two chariot burials. The Burnby Lane chariot burial, although badly damaged by medieval ploughing, contained a surviving iron tyre, part of a human skeleton and most remarkably, a pair of horses. This was one of 163 burials, most within 70 square and small round barrows. This lecture will place these discoveries in the context of the Iron Age landscape of what has become known as the Arras Culture, after discoveries made at Arras Farm, Market Weighton 1815–1817 which included the Kings Barrow, also accompanied by two horses.

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PUBLIC LECTURE

09 FEBRUARY | 13:00–14:00

Belief and Belonging: Daily life on the medieval Swahili coast

by Stephanie Wynne-Jones FSA

In this lecture, Stephanie Wynne-Jones will present the results of a large-scale excavation project on the southern Swahili coast. The site of Songo Mnara was one of the grandest towns on the coast, with coral-built palaces, mosques and houses on a scale not seen elsewhere. It was deeply connected with networks of religious learning, trade and movement in the Indian Ocean world. Yet Songo Mnara is not mentioned in any histories. Even its more famous neighbour, Kilwa Kisiwani, is known from only a handful of sources. The stakes for archaeology here are therefore high, as we are able to recover whole urban worlds that are only known through their material remains. Excavations at Songo Mnara have used a massive range of cutting-edge techniques to explore the ways people lived on the 14th- and 15th-century Swahili coast, for the first time recovering details of local practices and value systems. This lecture presents the results of this work, as part of a consideration of the Swahili urban phenomenon more generally. It precedes the publication of a major site monograph, due 2020–2021.

ORDINARY MEETING / EVENING LECTURE

11 FEBRUARY | 17:00–18:00

A Well-recorded people – The Chelsea Out-pensioners in the Early Eighteenth Century

by Andrew Cormack FSA

The extensive archives of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea provide a remarkable view into the lives of a section of the labouring classes who chose soldiering as their occupation. Very little is known individually about these people, and they are generally considered as a mass because they were predominantly illiterate and therefore left no personal record of their experiences. However, the Hospital recorded a great deal about them in terms of the length of their service, their age at enlistment and what had happened to them – wounds, injuries and illnesses – that brought about their discharge from the Army. This lecture will discuss aspects of soldiering, the lives of the working poor from which soldiers were largely drawn, the notion of charity in the 18th century and the difficulties of administering a pensionscheme that covered the whole of the British Isles.

ORDINARY MEETING / EVENING LECTURE *Ballot

18 FEBRUARY | 17:00–18:00

The Early Medieval Eye and Insular Art. The Codex Amiatinus, the Book of Kells, and the scholarship of Jennifer O'Reilly

by Dr Carol Farr FSA

Recent archaeological discoveries have contributed much to our understanding of the visual art created in Britain and Ireland during the seventh to ninth centuries AD, known as 'Insular art'. The scholarship of the late Dr Jennifer O'Reilly, a historian of Insular culture, complemented the archaeological advances by articulating with precision, imagination and profound knowledge the context of Insular manuscript art, which was rooted in the Christianity of late antiquity and the early middle ages. Focusing on two famous manuscripts, *The Codex Amiatinus* and the *Book of Kells*, this lecture will explore connections between the new picture of Insular art that modern archaeology has provided and the early medieval eyes through which the late Dr Jennifer O'Reilly's, scholarship enable us to see this material culture.

ORDINARY MEETING / EVENING LECTURE

25 FEBRUARY | 17:00–18:00

The Stonehenge Hidden Landscapes Project and the Durrington Walls Pits Circle
by Prof Vincent Gaffney FSA

At a time when the landscape of Stonehenge is a matter of significant public debate, it is important that research continues beyond the bounds of the A303 upgrade. The Stonehenge Landscape Project, an international collaborative project including a consortium of British Archaeologists and the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute, remains active and has carried out extensive remote sensing surveys across this important landscape. Having undertaken more tens of square kilometres of survey across the landscape, the significance of such work goes far beyond the discovery of individual sites or monuments. The extensive survey data can now begin to be integrated with other studies and excavations within this key landscape and provide further insights into the structure of features at greater spatial scale. The recent discovery of a circle of massive features encircling the henge at Durrington Walls provides an example of how this information is adding and transforming our understanding of the landscape. This lecture will present this new information and consider the larger value of such work

ORDINARY MEETING / EVENING LECTURE

04 MARCH | 15:30–17:00

OUT OF LONDON MEETING IN CARDIFF | ONLINE ONLY

The first stones: Penywyrlod and Gwernvale in their early Neolithic context
by William Britnell FSA & Prof Alasdair Whittle FSA

This lecture will focus on Penywyrlod and Gwernvale, two early Neolithic long cairns in inland south-east Wales, which are part of a distinctive distribution around the fringes of the hills of the Black Mountains. In recent decades, detailed investigations of long cairns and long barrows have been comparatively rare, so new research and fresh assessments of Penywyrlod and Gwernvale are significant for Neolithic studies in their own right. The recent work at Penywyrlod has provided further important detail on the architecture of the structure and its contents, its date, and its setting. It has also set up the opportunity to review the evidence from Gwernvale, especially from the pre-cairn surface, focusing on the wooden structures and probable pre-cairn midden or middens.

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INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY LECTURE

08 MARCH | 13:00–14:00

Active men and Emblematising women: a reflection on agency, narrative and interpretations in archaeological practice

by Dr Charlotte Hedenstierna-Jonson

Graves provide one of the main sources when acquiring information about the people of past societies. In the process of collecting and documenting archaeological remains, the methods are explicit and requirements for scientific viability extensive. But when the facts have been documented and the process of interpretation begins, new approaches seem to apply. The study of a “warrior grave that turned out to be a woman” (grave Bj 581 from Birka), and the response it received, brought to light the fact that the interpretative process followed parallel frameworks depending on the gender of the buried individual. Gender became a game changer, making previously accepted interpretations no longer valid although nothing in the grave had actually changed. Using three burials from the Viking town Birka as illustrations, this presentation is a reflection on how we as scholars approach the archaeological source material, the choices we make and the perspectives that influence our interpretations and narratives.

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PUBLIC LECTURE

09 MARCH | 13:00–14:00

The Reverend Joseph Hunter, FSA., and the Legend of Robin Hood

by Dr David Crook FSA

The legend of Robin Hood, a northern medieval English outlaw living at an uncertain date, whose actual existence is disputed by many and who is supposed among other things to have robbed from the rich to give to the poor, is well known throughout the English-speaking world and well beyond it. This lecture will look at the work of antiquary Reverend Joseph Hunter in the 1800s which was published in 1852 and initially well received but later ridiculed. There is no doubt that Hunter’s particular suggestion was fanciful in the extreme, but his idea that evidence for an original Robin Hood might be found among the early records of the English state was revived strongly in the 1980s and subsequently by a new generation of historians. Their exploration of the documentary sources has now resulted in the identification of a new and more plausible candidate for the original outlaw.

ORDINARY MEETING / EVENING LECTURE

11 MARCH | 17:00–18:00

Anglo-Saxon hydraulic engineering in the Fens

by Prof Michael Chisholm FSA

For the Fens south of the Wash, it has long been held that only the Romans or the Normans were capable of major hydraulic engineering. Much has been done in recent decades challenging this view but the full significance of a major Anglo-Saxon example has not hitherto been recognised. Three channels marking the northern boundary of Cambridgeshire formed a distributary of the Nene from Peterborough to the Wash in post-Conquest times. It used to be thought that because county boundaries were established in late Anglo-Saxon times they were natural in origin but they were in fact artificial – Cat’s Water, (Old) South Eau and Shire Drain. This lecture will illustrate that these channels were the work of the Anglo-Saxons and that they must have been result of an agreement between the controlling abbeys at that time.

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CONFERENCE:

SEALS AND THE PEOPLE OF BRITAIN

15 MARCH & 22 MARCH | 14:00–16:30

Organised by Dr Elizabeth New FSA & John Cherry FSA

This seminar will be held on two consecutive Monday afternoons.

The study of sigillography, seals and seal matrices has attracted a growing interest in recent years. This conference will explore the wide range of images and text displayed by seals and how this range can be interpreted to reveal social identities, both normal and exceptional, across medieval and early modern Britain. Different identities will be explored, including: urban and rural; learned and unlearned; craft and communal. The conference will also explore links with personal and family names, inherited symbols, and how far family relationships influence seals.

A full programme and booking is available on our website. This event is free and will be held online only.

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ORDINARY MEETING / EVENING LECTURE

18 MARCH | 17:00–18:00

Recent fieldwork on hillforts and other earthworks in Wales

by Paul Belford FSA

In the last few years the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) has undertaken a number of excavations on hillforts and linear earthworks in Wales. This work has been accompanied by a systematic programme of palaeoenvironmental analysis and scientific dating – including both radiocarbon dating and optically-stimulated luminescence (OSL) dating. As a result CPAT now has confirmed dates for the construction of Offa’s Dyke and for the ramparts of Beacon Ring, a hillfort on the Long Mountain near the Welsh border. The results from Beacon Ring, which is part of a long-term programme of research and conservation partly funded by Cadw, represent the first OSL date for a hillfort rampart obtained anywhere in the UK. This lecture will consider the potential and limitations of scientific dating for earthworks in general, before discussing the case studies of Offa’s Dyke and Beacon Ring in the broader context of linear earthwork studies and hillfort studies both in the UK and elsewhere.

ORDINARY MEETING / EVENING LECTURE *Ballot
OUT OF LONDON MEETING IN EXETER | ONLINE ONLY

25 MARCH | 17:00–18:00

Early Medieval Glassmaking at Glastonbury and Barking Abbeys; craft working and the early church in the 7th to 8th centuries AD

by Dr Hugh Willmott FSA

Between 1955–7 excavations by Raleigh Radford at Glastonbury Abbey revealed the first extensive evidence for pre-Conquest glassmaking in England. Never comprehensively studied, a recent analysis has shown that the remains of five glass furnaces were encountered along with a small but significant assemblage of working waste. Long believed to belong to the tenth century, the glassmaking can now be dated to the 680s. This assemblage alongside an assemblage from Barking Abbey in Essex can be used to point to a clear connection between the reintroduction of the glass industry in England and the founding of new Christian communities. This talk will review the archaeological evidence for early glassmaking and discuss what it can tell us about the control of technology and the establishment of the early Church.

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ORDINARY MEETING / EVENING LECTURE

08 APRIL | 17:00–18:00

The Viking Phenomenon: Paradigms, Parameters, and Progress

by Prof Neil Price FSA

In December 2015, the Swedish Research Council made an unprecedented investment in archaeology, in the form of a £5 million grant for ten years of pure research into the origins of what we call the Viking Age. Based at Uppsala University under the speaker's direction, the project is running 2016–25 and revisits the fundamental questions at the heart of this critical period of Eurasian history, beginning with why the Scandinavian peoples began moving into the wider world on such a scale, and why this occurred in the latter half of the eighth century. Rejecting the illusory notion of a 'smoking gun' or any single trigger factor, we are exploring the longer time depth of the Viking phenomenon further back into the late Iron Age (following Nordic terminology), the varied ethnicities and identities of 'Vikings', and the structures of economy and politics that underpinned their developing diaspora. This lecture outlines the project, and in particular the framework established within it for how the period should be approached, its paradigms and parameters of study. As we near the halfway point, progress to date will be reviewed, and preliminary conclusions presented.

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PUBLIC LECTURE

13 APRIL | 13:00–14:00

Exploring the Easter E.g. – Shifting Baselines and Changing Perceptions of Cultural and Biological 'Aliens':

by Prof Naomi Sykes FSA

Easter is the most important event in the Christian calendar. Despite its global reach and cultural significance, Easter has attracted minimal academic attention since the 1970s. Astonishingly little is known about the festival's genesis, such as when it first appeared in Britain, the origins of its component customs – e.g. the gifting of eggs purportedly delivered by the Easter 'bunny' – or how they coalesced to form current practices. Equally obscure are the timing and circumstance by which animals that have come to be associated with the festival – notably the brown hare and the rabbit but also the chicken – arrived in Britain. As a result, Easter is a high-profile natural and cultural history puzzle.

ANNIVERSARY MEETING

22 APRIL | 17:00–18:00

President's Annual Address

The formal business of the meeting will take place and the Presidents' address will follow. Due to the current COVID-19 restrictions there will be no anniversary reception to follow.

Fellows are encouraged to join the meeting online but registration is required to receive the link.

Open to Fellows only.

CONFERENCE

LOST FRONTIERS AND DROWNED LANDSCAPES IN BRITAIN AND BEYOND

6–7 MAY

Organised by Prof Geoff Bailey FSA & Prof Vincent Gaffney FSA

The exploration of the inundated prehistoric landscapes on our coastal shelves is one of the great challenges remaining to archaeology. In Britain and North West Europe over the last two decades, the results of dedicated research projects, commercial work carried out in preparation for marine infrastructure and community archaeology programmes have transformed our understanding. In May 2020, the Society of Antiquaries and the ERC research project "Europe's Lost Frontiers" are co-hosting a two-day event to bring researchers together to present the results of new research. Day 1 (6 May) will be dedicated to the results of the Europe's Lost Frontiers project. Day 2 (7 May) will bring together other researchers, focussing on the British Isles and the North Sea but including new research elsewhere.

This event may take place online only. A full programme is available on our website. We are currently taking booking for attendance online.

PUBLIC LECTURE

05 MAY | 13:00–14:00

Wartime paintings of London: the story of the war artists who documented the capital 1939–1945

by Suzanne Bardgett

This lecture will focus on the speaker's book *Wartime London in Paintings* (published in April 2020) about the artists who were commissioned by Sir Kenneth Clark's War Artists Advisory Committee to record scenes of wartime London. Drawing on Imperial War Museums' (IWM) rich art collection and archives, this lecture will show the little known artistic record of how Britain's capital was transformed during six years of conflict, and also reveal some of the city's curious wartime secrets; from the construction of the 'Mulberry Harbours' in London's docks – instrumental to the successful D-Day landings – to the five-mile section of the Central line that became a secret wartime factory.

PUBLIC LECTURE

01 JUNE | 13:00–14:00

Henry VIII: Power, Propaganda and Personality
by Dr John Cooper FSA

Who was King Henry VIII, and why does he continue to fascinate and to provoke us five centuries since he reigned? This lecture coincides with an online exhibition drawn from the collections of the Society of Antiquaries, offering a unique perspective on England’s most popular – and controversial – king. The exhibition showcases our rarely-seen portraits, manuscripts and objects connected to Henry VIII, including the inventory of his possessions drawn up on his death and records of the spectacular jousts staged at his court. Examining the power, the personality and the propaganda of Henry VIII, this lecture also offers some reasons for his enduring popularity in our own day.

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CONFERENCE

INTERTWINED HISTORIES: THE LEGACIES OF COLONIALISM AND EMPIRE

18 JUNE | 13:00–18:00

Organised by the Diversity and Equality Working Group & Communications Manager

This event is the first initiative by the Diversity and Equality Working Group and is being organised in conjunction with the Communications Manager. Last year saw a shift in the way Society views and engages with contested heritage and this seminar will encompass 5 short papers (20/5minutes) on each of the key themes: The UK and Slavery; The UK and Colonialism; Diversity in UK Heritage; International Perspectives; and Literary Contexts and will end with a keynote paper by Raksha Dave. The panel sessions which will follow later in the year will focus on each topic individually giving us the opportunity to invite more speakers and delve deeper into each subject. These topics are more important than ever and we hope that these events will provide a platform for discussion, engagement and learning. We have confirmed all but one speaker (details below), as we are trying to source an international speaker and the time difference is proving to be difficult. Ideally we would like the keynote to start at 6pm or if more convenient slightly earlier. As a champion of diversity within the sector, your work in archaeology and media would provide a fascinating end to our event and a springboard for further discussion.

This will be the launch event for a series of panel discussions in 2021/2 on different themes prominent within these discussions; The UK and Slavery; The UK and Colonialism; Diversity in UK Heritage; International Perspectives; and Literary Contexts.

This event will take place online only. A full programme is available on our website.

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Our Event Programme may be subject to change depending on changes in restrictions.

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For more information & to book any of our events, visit
www.sal.org.uk/events/

COUNCIL TO ANNIVERSARY 2021

Paul Drury, MRICS, IHBC (President), Chair

Stephen Dunmore, OBE, BA (Treasurer)

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Duncan Brown, BA, MCIfA

Emma Carver, MPhil, FSAScot

Nathalie Cohen, MA

John Cooper, DPhil, FRHistS

Vincent Gaffney, MBE, BA, PhD

Barney Sloane, BA



Society of Antiquaries of London

Burlington House, London, W1J 0BE

For more information on our events please visit:
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