

BERKSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2018 – 2019

ANNE HARRISON

Registered Charity No.:	1117197
Registered office:	19 Challenor Close, Wokingham, Berks, RG40 4UJ
Trustees	
Chair	Ms Alison McQuitty
Secretary	Mrs Anne Harrison
Treasurer	Dr Andrew Hutt
Tour Organiser	Vacant
Other Charity trustees	Mr John Chapman, Mrs Gail Eaton, Mrs Ann Griffin, Mrs Anne Helmore, Mr Tim Lloyd, Mrs Catherine Petts, Mrs Griselda Truscott-Wicks, Dr Maggie Smith, Mrs Julie Worsfold
Bankers	Lloyds TSB Bank Skipton Building Society Barclays Bank
Independent examiner	Mr John Butler

This report covers the period from 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019.

MANAGING THE SOCIETY

The Society became a registered charity in December 2006. The Society is governed by Berkshire Archaeological Society Constitution issued 15th February 2015 and Berkshire Archaeological Society Rules issued on 6th June 2005. The Society's objects are to advance the education of the public in the field of archaeology and history in the past and present county of Berkshire.

The Society meets these objects through a range of activities which include: a programme of lectures, a research programme, archaeological fieldwork, a day school on the archaeology of Berkshire, visits to sites of archaeological and historical interest, publishing the Berkshire Archaeological Journal, managing an archaeological library and promoting its activities via a newsletter, a web site, on Twitter and through posters placed in public buildings.

The Society is governed by the Trustees.

In March 2019, the Society had 137 individual members living at 114 addresses and 13 corporate members. During the year the Society arranged for storage at Storage King, in Woodley, and transferred its fieldwork equipment and the Berkshire Archaeology Research Library from its former store at Shurgard in Wokingham.

POLICY

The Council approved the BAS Data Protection and Privacy Policy at the Council meeting on September 15th 2018.

ACTIVITIES

The activities in this period were:

Four issues of the quarterly newsletter sent to all members. The Society thanks Gail Eaton for editing these newsletters.

Monthly issues of the News Sheet, distributed to members by email, containing up to date news and information. The Society thanks Tim Lloyd for editing these news sheets.

A programme of monthly lectures running from September 2018 to April 2019 (see Figure 1). The Society thanks Anne Harrison and Andrew Hutt for organising this programme.

Date	Lecturer	Title
15 September 2018	Peter Mitchell	The Donkey in Human History: An Archaeological Perspective
20 October 2018	Jim Storr	The Anglo-Saxon conquest of England
17 November 2018	Eleanor Blakelock	Secrets of the Anglo-Saxon goldsmith: the results from the analysis of the gold in the Staffordshire Hoard
15 December 2018	Catherine Petts	A Napoleonic ordnance depot at Weedon Beck
	Alan Hall	Highwood: A Romano-British site
	Andrew Hutt	The elite buildings of Silchester
19 January 2019	Jennifer Foster	Adventures in experimental archaeology
16 February 2019	Duncan Garrow	Grave goods; objects and death in later prehistoric Britain
16 March 2019	Simon Elliot	Sea Eagles of Empire: the Classis Britannica and the battles for Britain

Figure 1: The 2018-19 Lecture programme

A Spring Tour

No tour was arranged in Spring 2018 as the post of Tour Organiser was vacant. The Council is exploring other means by which a tour can be organised.

Archaeological walks and visits: these complement the lecture programme. The visits organised in 2018 were:

Saturday 21st July 2018: A visit to Silchester to see the Roman baths excavation, organised by Anne Harrison.

Friday 22nd June 2018: A visit to the Oxford Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit where a group of about 20 BAS members met in South Parks Road, Oxford for a visit to the Unit (ORAU), organised by Trevor Coombs.

Wednesday 13th March 2019: 20 members met at the Wheelwrights Arms, Winnersh, for lunch, organised by Anne Helmore.

The Society thanks all those who organised and led these walks and visits.

The Berkshire Historic Environment Day School (formerly the Berkshire Historic Environment Forum) did not take place this year but plans are in place for a meeting in October 2019 with Archiving as its theme.

The Archaeology in Berkshire Day School was held in Newbury on Saturday 14th April 2018. See Figure 2. The Society thanks Trevor Coombs for organising the event.

Time

Time	Title	Speaker	Organisation
10.00	Welcome	Ann Griffin	BAS
10.05-10.20	Recent work in West Berkshire	Sarah Orr	West Berkshire Historic Environment Officer
10.20-10.40	Recent discoveries in East Berkshire	Kathleen Leary	East Berkshire Archaeological Officer
10.40-11.00	Coffee		
11.00-11.20	Recent discoveries at Riding Court Farm, Datchet	John Powell	Wessex Archaeology
11.20-11.40	Roman Boxford: a farm, a villa and a mosaic	Steve Clarke	BARG
11.40-12.00	Silchester: the new temple and Nero's brickworks	Professor Mike Fulford	Reading University
12.00-13.15	Lunch		
13.15-13.45	Recent geological research on the Mesolithic in the Kennet Valley	Professor Martin Bell	Reading University
13.45-14.15	Roman temples in and around Berkshire	Andrew Hutt	BAS
14.14-14.45	Tea		
14.45-15.15	Later Prehistoric and Roman settlement at Great Western Park, Didcot, a multi-period site revealed	Alex Davies	Oxford Archaeology
15.15-15.45	Wallingford Winterbrook: Excavations of a multi-period site with Prehistoric and early Saxon settlement	Carl Chapness	Oxford Archaeology
15.45-16.00	Questions and conclusions	Ann Griffin	BAS

Figure 2: The Programme for the Archaeology Day School held in St Nicholas Church Hall, Newbury on Saturday 14th April 2018

The Society's web site: The website has continued to provide the Society with an online presence. The Society thanks Tim Lloyd for maintaining it .

The Twitter account: The society thanks Julie Worsfold for continuing to tweet on behalf of the Society

The Society's libraries: These include the Berkshire Archaeological Society library at the Berkshire Record Office and the Berkshire Archaeology Research Library. The latter occupies 39 plastic crates which are held in the Society's store. The Society thanks Andrew Hutt for managing these libraries.

The Berkshire Archaeological Journal: Work was completed on Volume 83, a single theme volume on Roman Berkshire written by BAS members and edited by Trevor Coombs, and published in June 2018. The Society thanks Catherine Petts and especially Andrew Hutt for his dedicated work in copy editing this journal.

Work is in progress with the production of volume 84, a multi article volume.

FIELD AND POST-EXCAVATION WORK

Knowl Hill. In April 2018 an investigation was carried out to investigate anomalies found in a geophysics survey of the site in 2014. Three trenches were opened. One of them revealed the remains of a ditch which had been identified in the earlier geophysics survey.

Hope Taylor Old Windsor finds. In October and November 2018 over 20 BAS members were involved with members of other societies and local groups to assist in quantifying the finds from excavations carried out by Brian Hope-Taylor in Old Windsor in the 1950's. Over 38,000 sherds of pottery and over 40,000 pieces of bone were recorded. The work was organised by Berkshire Archaeology with Wessex Archaeology and took place over a period of nine weeks.

THE SCHOOLS PROJECT

A project to introduce archaeology to schools was trialled in collaboration with a school in Crowthorne when a class of primary school children was taken to Caesar's Camp for a talk on the Iron Age and an exploration of the site. Maggie Smith and Andrew Hutt are thanked for organising and leading day.

THE STUDY GROUP

The group met regularly throughout the year for meetings covering a variety of subjects. These included a presentation on geophysics techniques and technology, a workshop on stratigraphy, a celebration of the publication of The Land of the Atrebatas BAJ volume 83, and continued research and presentations on Roman Berkshire, the Roman rural settlement dataset, and meetings on the genesis and development of the BAS Gazetteer. The Society thanks Andrew Hutt for organising these meetings.

This overview of the events organised by the Society shows that it is meeting its obligations as a registered charity.

THIS REPORT

This report was approved by the Trustees on 12th December 2020.

Signed:..... Chair

Date:.....