

BERKSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2019 – 2020

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 2019 to 31st March 2020.

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 2020, the Society had 133 individual members living at 110 addresses and 13 corporate members. The Society maintained its arrangements for storage at Storage King, in Woodley, where fieldwork equipment and the Berkshire Archaeology Research Library from is kept.

POLICY

The Council approved the BAS Expenses Policy at the Council meeting on July 6th 2019.

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 2019 to April 2020 (see Figure 1). The Society thanks Julie Worsfold for organising this programme.

Date	Lecturer	Title
21 September 2019	Dr Ceri Falys	Saxon Period Burials from Guildown, Guildford
19 October 2019	Samantha Brummage	Mesolithic-Neolithic Histories in the Colne Valley
16 November 2019	Alison McQuitty	The Ottomans in Jordan
14 December 2019	Sue Dormer	The Council for British Archaeology - 75 years
	Kenelm England	Observatories in Berkshire
	Tim Lloyd	History of the BAS logo
18 January 2020	Prof Rick Schulting	Bluestones and white bones: the origins of people buried at Stonehenge
15 February 2020	Dr Ben Jervis	Material Culture of English Medieval Rural Households
21 March 2020		Lecture cancelled prior to Covid lockdown

Figure 1: The 2019-20 Lecture programme

A Spring Tour

No tour was arranged in Spring 2019 while 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 2019-20 were:

Saturday 29th June 2019: A visit to Silchester to see the Roman baths excavation, organised by Anne Harrison.

Saturday 27th July 2019: Visit to Ankerwycke organised by Andrew Hutt and Anne Helmore

Tuesday 21st January 2020: A visit to the excavation at Wittenham Clumps. The Society thanks Anne Helmore for organising this visit.

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.

The Archaeology in Berkshire Day School was held in Wokingham on Saturday 6th April 2019. See Figure 2. The Society thanks Trevor Coombs and Julie Worsfold for organising the event.

The Society participated in **The East Reading Festival** on Sunday 23rd June 2019 and coordinated The Heritage Quarter with other heritage groups, including stalls offering information and activities such as building an Iron Age round-house, completing a global time-line and interpreting discarded objects.

The Berkshire Archaeological Society's
Day School Programme
Saturday 6 April 2019

Main Hall, The Cornerstone, Wokingham, RG40 1UE 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

10.00 Welcome

Alison McQuitty, Chair, Berkshire Archaeological Society

10.05 Recent work in West Berkshire

Sarah Orr, West Berkshire Council Senior Archaeologist

10.25 Recent discoveries in East Berkshire

Fiona McDonald, East Berkshire Archaeological Officer

10.40 COFFEE

11.00 Extracting evidence from gravel quarries in Berkshire and Buckinghamshire
Gareth Chaffey, Wessex Archaeology

11.20 Runnymede Explored

Tom Dommett, The National Trust

11.40 Silchester: The Roman Baths project Professor M. Fulford, University of Reading

12.00 LUNCH

13.15 New thoughts on Dorchester-on-Thames

Paul Booth, Oxford Archaeology

13.45 Nero's tile works: The Romano British tile and pottery industry at Little London, Pamber

Dr Sara Machin, University of Reading

14.15 From the water's edge: preliminary results of the River Thames project, settlement activity on the banks of the river

Phillipa Puzey-Broomhead, Trent and Peak Archaeology

14.45 TEA

15.15 Medieval to Modern: osteological and archaeological findings in St Mary's churchyard Wargrave

Dr Ceri Boston, freelance osteologist and Dr Stephanie Duensing, John Moore Heritage Services

15.45-16.00 Questions and Conclusions

Alison McQuitty, Chair, Berkshire Archaeological Society

Figure 2: The Programme for the Archaeology Day School held in The Cornerstone, Wokingham on Saturday 6th April 2019

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 84, a multi article volume published in September 2019. The Society thanks Andrew Hutt and the Berkshire Archaeological Journal Editorial Board for producing this journal.

Volumes 71 to 84 of the journal were made available online via the Archaeology Data Service.

Work is in progress on the production of volume 85, a volume dedicated to the work of Cotswold Archaeology in East Berkshire 2015-17. Publication is expected in the autumn of 2020.

FIELD AND POST-EXCAVATION WORK

Blounts Court: Further excavations were carried out at Blounts Court between 23rd April and 3rd May 2019, revealing the corner of the 16th/17th century barn and the end of a Georgian garden wall.

Ankerwycke Priory: A geophysical investigation was carried out at the Priory site from 12th to 28th July 2019 in collaboration with the National Trust.

Hall Farm, Arborfield: A geophysical survey of fields around the farm house was carried out in September 2019 looking for evidence for the medieval village of Arborfield.

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 presentations on iron working in Iron Age and Roman Berkshire, the Ankerwycke survey, the Hall Farm survey, the Roman Berkshire project and the BAS Gazeteer. 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.

In March 2020, as a result of the Covid 19 pandemic, a lockdown was imposed in England, all face to face meetings were cancelled and replaced by meetings over Zoom, a video conferencing application.

THIS REPORT

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

Signed:..... Chair

Date:.....