

ACID

Archaeology and Conservation in Derbyshire and the Peak District

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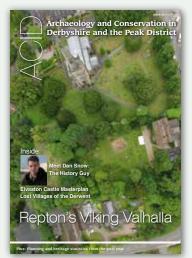
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Cover picture: An aerial view of the Viking site in Repton, with the parish church of St Wystan at the top of the photograph and the Rectory garden dig in the centre. See Repton's Viking Valhalla (p4), Reframing Viking Repton (p6)

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Foreword:

Heritage is a living asset

'ikings feature heavily in this year's edition of ACID. Three separate projects have revealed more of the Viking presence in Repton, all using new techniques to expand on previous discoveries. The Viking connection continues with a profile of Dan Snow, who has presented TV programmes about the subject. His new venture History Hit includes creating podcasts about history. These can particularly appeal to the generation who watch TV on demand and choose podcasts over radio programmes. Perhaps we should create an ACID podcast in the future!

Other projects have shed light on what we think of as familiar well-studied landscapes – Chatsworth and the Derwent Valley Mills. The investigations at Arkwright's Lumford Mill (page 10) and the riverside at Chatsworth (page 24) demonstrate there is always more detail to uncover.

It is wonderful to read about the conversion work carried out at the corn mill at Ashford-in-the-Water (page 17). It shows what can be achieved when developers, heritage specialists and planners work together. The result is a unique building interior with a residence fit for the 21st century. It contrasts hugely with the mid-20th century destruction of the villages of Ashopton and Derwent, and their associated heritage assets, by the construction of the Ladybower Reservoir (page 18).

The Peak District Historic Farmstead Project (page 23) highlights how important it is to gather information on the current state of heritage assets and assess their significance in the national picture to ensure a full understanding of how development may impact them. Heritage is a living asset. When we are conserving heritage, we need to remember who we are conserving it for. Assessing heritage without considering its current and future use by people is only looking at half the picture.

As a former resident of Buxton, I am very pleased to see the Crescent project (page 20) nearing its completion. The Crescent itself took more than a decade to construct so perhaps we shouldn't be surprised that redevelopment would need a few years too. It is also interesting to learn about the future plans for Elvaston Castle and Gardens (page 12).

The role volunteers have played is mentioned in several articles, and I know from my day job as Curator of Archaeology at Museums Sheffield how much volunteers can contribute to exploring and sharing our heritage. But they can often only make that contribution with the support of paid professionals – to train them, to unlock the gates of sites and doors of museum stores, to provide the equipment for the tasks, and to provide continuity when volunteers find paid work, have new commitments or move away.

Cuts to paid staff often lead to fewer opportunities for volunteers, not more. We must continue to advocate for the social and economic benefits of enabling people to actively engage with their local heritage.

Martha Jasko-Lawrence

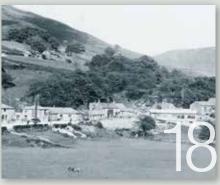
Chair of the Derbyshire Archaeological Advisory Committee













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Viking Age Repton

Repton's Viking Valhalla

Analysis of new isotope data by archaeologists from Bristol University seem to prove that Repton was the scene of the Great Viking Army's overwintering in AD 873-74. ROLY SMITH reports

ver since Martin Biddle and Birthe Kjolbye-Biddle's excavations near St Wystan's Parish Church in Repton over 40 years ago, the idea that the Great Army of the Vikings had encamped there during the winter of AD 873-74 has been tantalising historians.

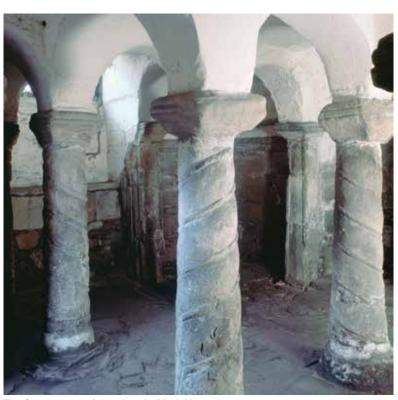
But new investigations by archaeologists from the University of Bristol, led by Cat Jarman and Mark Horton, have at last come up with what appears to be incontrovertible proof of the account of the camp, first recorded in the 9th century Anglo Saxon Chronicle. Cat Jarman explained: "In 2012, when I started my PhD research on the Repton Viking camp, archaeologists had thrown doubt on this interpretation of the site. I hoped to use bioarchaeological methods to resolve unanswered questions about the human remains.

"And I wondered if new techniques could explain puzzling radiocarbon dates from the assembled bones, and shed light on these people's geographical origins and possible associations with the Viking world."

In 2017, Cat also had the opportunity to carry out new geophysical surveys and excavations on the site of the so-called charnel house in the Vicarage gardens west of the church, co-directed by her supervisor Mark Horton, who coincidentally had supervised one of the original excavations on the site in 1981-82.



Skeleton in trench four of Martin Biddle's 1986 excavation



The Saxon crypt of the church (Mark Horton)



A skull from the charnel house (Cat Jarman)

The apparently very early radiocarbon dates on the remains of some of the around 264 people found here had long puzzled archaeologists. Among the deposits were several artefacts, including a Viking axe, knives and five silver pennies dated AD 872-75. But some of the bodies were dated to as early as the 7th and 8th centuries. The cause of this discrepancy turned out to be the lack of correction for marine reservoir effects (MREs), claims Cat. Radiocarbon measured in archaeological samples comes from the carbon absorbed during life, mainly from diet. "But not all foods are equal," she explained. "Carbon 14 in terrestrial and marine animals gives an apparent age difference of around 400 years, due to the mixing at sea of atmospheric carbon and older carbon from deep water. "Therefore a fish would yield a date significantly earlier than say a sheep, even if they were alive at the same time. This difference is passed on along the food chain, meaning that remains of humans with marine diets can give radiocarbon dates that seem artificially older than their real age."

Cat used stable carbon isotope samples to assess this offset, allowing her to estimate the percentage of an individual's marine food consumption. These corrections placed the human remains on the site precisely within the range of the coins found with the skeletons.

In addition to diet, isotopes can also throw light on the subject's geographical origins. Sampling a large selection of individuals from the charnel house and individual graves, Cat established that they were not local people, but that they revealed a very wide range of isotope ratios, many consistent with origins in inland or southern Scandinavia.

The new excavations in the Vicarage gardens also yielded a series of pebble surfaces, with large quantities of metalworking waste and slag and a fragment of carved sandstone from an Anglo Saxon cross. Most significantly, however, they also revealed tell-tale signs of Vikings, including two clinker nails of the type used in Viking ships, an iron axe blade fragment, an arrowhead and several lead gaming pieces.

Cat concludes that the new radiocarbon dates with the MRE corrections conclusively show that the charnel deposit is consistent with a single event, and that while the strontium isotope data cannot conclusively identify the geographical origins of the individuals, the new information supports the interpretation that they were members of the Viking Great Army.



The charnel house mound in the Vicarage gardens

As a result of the new excavations in the Vicarage garden, Cat says that they provide us with a significant new understanding of Viking use of the site. The current most likely interpretation is that the defensive enclosure excavated by the Biddles was not the full extent of the

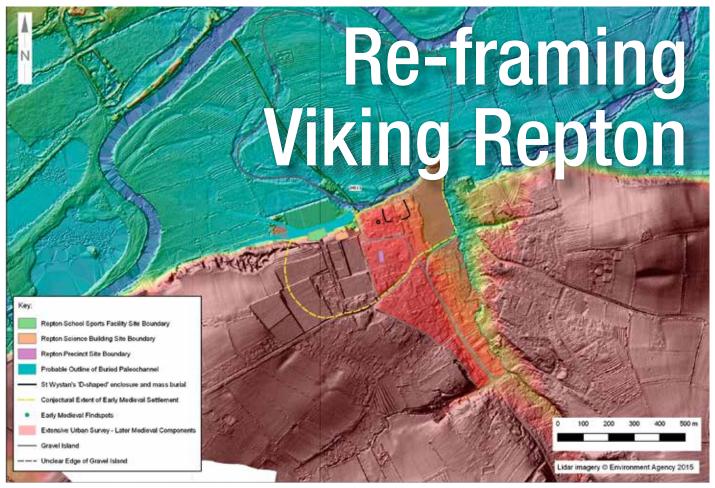
"Importantly," Cat concludes, "this means that the evidence at Repton fully supports a Great Army group counting in their thousands, as appears now to be the consensus. The evidence for production and metalworking also fits in with the material culture discovered at other Viking camps."



Bone deposits in the charnel house (Martin Biddle)



The east end of Repton Parish Church (Mark Horton)



The LiDAR image of the Repton landscape

GARETH DAVIES of Trent & Peak Archaeology provides some new insights into settlement and land-use at Repton in the Viking Age

epton, with its Viking burials and 9th century crypt under St. Wystan's Church, is a well-known, evocative site. Clearly an important centre of Mercian power – both royal and ecclesiastical - during the early medieval period, it must have acted as a magnet for the Great Viking Army who, as recorded by the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, overwintered here in 873-4 AD.



Yet, as with many 'type-sites', while certain important research themes are now highly-developed (see Repton's Viking Valhalla, page 4), wider topics of early medieval settlement evolution and landscape context remain somewhat neglected.

However, in the last five years, redevelopment across the dispersed campus of Repton School has afforded Trent & Peak Archaeology the opportunity to redress this imbalance. The work has been carried out through the planning process following advice from Derbyshire County Council's archaeology team.

Perhaps the most significant new evidence has been confirmation of the existence of Middle and Late Saxon settlement features, in the form of a ditched enclosure and pits. These contain evidence for industrial production (iron working) on top of the east-west aligned sandstone cliff that runs through Repton, over 300m west of the St.Wystan's complex (now the site of a new Science building). These features are completely unrelated to suggested areas of later medieval settlement. This evidence starts to paint a picture of a more extensive and multifunctional early medieval settlement of Repton – populated by both consumers and producers – and allows us to start asking new questions such as what was the overall character and the extent of the settlement

Most recently, during the redevelopment of sports facilities, a short section of a now silted-up and deeply-buried watercourse was exposed immediately north of the sandstone cliff. Radiocarbon dates from the alluvial

settlement after this pivotal phase?

that greeted the Vikings, what were the drivers behind its emergence, and what was the subsequent trajectory of fills of this channel suggest that it began infilling in the earlier Bronze Age in a wet grassland landscape. The pollen evidence suggests that surrounding vegetation had stabilised during the Iron Age. The channel would therefore have been completely filled-in – but maybe seasonally wet – by the early medieval period. Using LiDAR to look more widely at the topography of the Repton landscape, TPA's geoarchaeologist Samantha Stein (now of Historic England) recognised that the recentlyidentified palaeochannel flows eastwards into the channel immediately north of the cliff top at St. Wystans. For many years, the defensive D-shaped, 0.4-hectare enclosure around St. Wystan's Church has been championed as the sole site relating to the overwintering camp of the Great Viking Army. However, if this channel was not regularly navigable during the Viking period, do we need to re-think the function and role of the St. Wystan's complex?



The surface of the exposed alluvial fills of the palaeochannel at the Repton Sports Facilities site



The Repton Sports Facilities site before demolition, from the west looking east along the sandstone bluff

Fortunately, recent work by Hadley and Richards at the Viking Camp at Torksey, Lincolnshire (2016) – where the Vikings overwintered just a year before Repton – has already provided new insights on this debate, including that we must now allow for the possibility that Viking camps might actually be over 50 hectares in size. On this basis, would the Repton D-shaped enclosure really have permitted occupancy by a substantial army? At Torksey, the Viking camp utilised a natural, slightly elevated 'island' abutting the east side of the River Trent and flanked by open channels or 'slipways' for boats to the north and south. Might a similar topographic opportunity have also been exploited north of St. Wystan's and south of the Trent at Repton? The east side of the camp at Torksey was naturally-defended by a boggy channel; intriguingly this channel, as at Repton, had also silted up in the Bronze Age to Iron Age.

So where does this leave us? Clearly the above observations concerning the true extent and location of the Viking Age activity at Repton are highly speculative. Nevertheless, other anecdotal evidence, such as an axe head found by workmen in 1924, does also suggest Viking activity north of the St. Wystan's complex.

At Torksey, an abundance of metal detector finds was recovered, revealing material evidence for craft, industrial and trading activities associated with the Viking camp. Might this provide a context for the few stray Viking age finds at Repton? Might we have to start thinking in terms of at least two foci of Viking activity - one selected for the living and one for the dead? Only further fieldwork can confirm this. However, it is hoped that recent findings might start to allow for new hypotheses to be tested that consider the early medieval evidence in a more holistic way. The work summarised in this article will be published in more detail in a forthcoming issue of the Derbyshire Archaeological Journal.



Editor ROLY SMITH caught up with Council for British Archaeology president and popular TV presenter DAN SNOW on his recent 'History Guy' tour

ou couldn't really avoid being a historian in our family," reflected TV historian and president of the Council for British Archaeology Dan Snow, as he eased his six-foot-six-frame into one of the plush velvet seats of Chesterfield's Pomegranate Theatre at the start of his 72-date speaking tour.

Born in Westminster, Dan is the youngest son of *Newsnight* presenter Peter Snow (famous for his election "swingometer") and Canadian Ann MacMillan, managing editor emeritus of the Canadian Broadcasting Commission's London Bureau. On his mother's side, he is the nephew of the respected Canadian historian Margaret MacMillan, and he is also a great-great-grandson of World War 1 Prime Minister David Lloyd George.



Like his father, Dan pursued his passion for history at Balliol College, Oxford, where he gained a first class honours degree in modern history with a dissertation on a comparison between the US and Russian imperial states and the British Empire. While at Balliol, he rowed in the Boat Race three times, once as president, winning once and losing twice to the Light Blues of Cambridge, including the infamous re-run race of 2001.

After coming down from Oxford, Dan immediately started presenting military history programmes with his father. Their 2004 BBC2 series *Battlefield Britain*, won a BAFTA award, and Dan has gone on to make programmes around the world on a range of historical topics. He has presented shows such as *Armada*, *Operation Grand Canyon*, *Battle Castle* and *The Vikings Uncovered*. Dan now has a regular slot on the popular BBC1 early-evening magazine programme *The One Show* – which is where he picked up that History Guy nickname – and is also part of the BBC Events team, presenting anniversary programmes such as those commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Britain and the landings at Gallipoli in 2015.

Dan (39) married criminologist and philanthropist Lady Edwina Grosvenor, second daughter of the Duke of Westminster, in 2010. They live in the New Forest and have two daughters, Zia and Orla, and one son, Wolf Robert.

When did you first become interested in history?

The plain fact is that everyone in our family simply loved history. On Saturday mornings, Dad would pile us all into the car, with its jerry can of petrol and rusty old tool kit, and we'd set off to the nearest battlefield, country house, ancient church, castle or museum. We didn't have much choice, and I reckon we visited every historical site within a 200-mile radius of our home when we were kids.

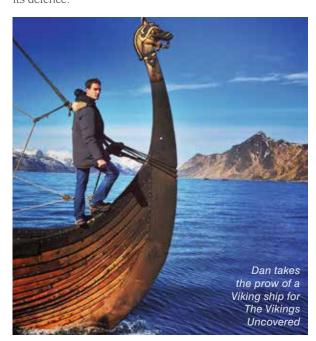
Your father was a big influence then?

I grew up thinking that everyone's Dad was on the telly because mine was. As far back as I can remember, I used to say goodnight to my Dad on television when he was doing Newsnight. But both Dad and his cousin Jon (the Channel 4 news reporter) were very good at treating young people like adults.

When I was five, I remember Dad asked me what I thought about Margaret Thatcher and the miners' strike, and he took me to demonstrations in London, and to the House of Commons in session, so I got the bug quite early on. Being in front of a camera in our family was quite normal. Of course I've been accused of nepotism. My simple answer to that is: yes, it's probably true. I've always thought that I've been incredibly lucky being on the telly doing stuff that I really love. It's much better than having a real job, anyway.

You've been President of the Council for British Archaeology (CBA) since 2013. Tell us about that.

The CBA does great work in getting people into history in a hands-on and engaging way. We have some serious challenges ahead of us and in this role I want to make the UK sit up and take notice of the threat to our heritage - which is growing every day – and to get more active in its defence.



I've worked with the CBA before, supporting the Young Archaeologists' Club some years ago by descending into a Roman sewer under the streets of York during the Festival of Archaeology. And of course, your very own Ken Smith is chairman of the CBA's trustees.

What about your latest venture, the HistoryHit TV Channel?

This has been an absolute joy, being able to film and cover stories myself, with no one to tell me what to do. I firmly believe that new technology – such as these podcasts – are a great way to reach a younger audience with historical subjects. We are already reaching a million people a month via the podcast, and hundreds of thousands of people more on Facebook and Twitter. I truly believe that this is the way forward. Ten per cent of our annual profits

will go to history education projects around the world. We have attracted some top historians, such as Mary Beard, Martin Biddle, David Starkey and Niall Ferguson (my tutor at Balliol) to do the podcasts, in addition to showing some of the TV shows I've done over the years. And this tour is another result of HistoryHit. Bands, comedians, actors and even scientists go on tour, so I thought we should give history a go.

Have you had the chance to look round Derbyshire?

Yes, I spent a wonderful morning admiring Bolsover Castle, William Cavendish's magnificent Stuart mansion overlooking the M1 and the north of the county. To have this extraordinary building right on your doorstep is just fantastic.

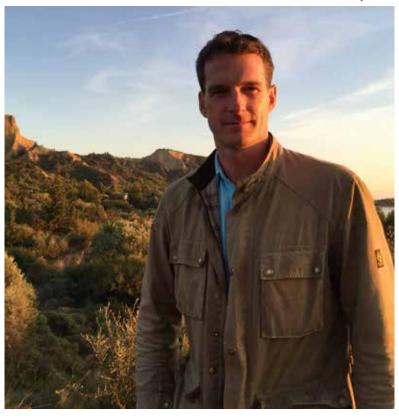
Then I had some time looking round the Chesterfield Museum and Art Gallery, and was completely bowled over by the incredible medieval man-powered windlass, which was used to build the amazing parish church. I reckon this is the only one of its kind in the country – if not in Europe. George Stephenson is one of my heroes, and I loved his glass cucumber straighteners.

Finally, what do you say to people who claim history doesn't matter any more?

For me, history is the most important, most entertaining, disturbing, thought-provoking and inspiring subject that there is. History is everything that has ever happened on this planet. It is why you are the person you are, why we live the way we do, in a country the way that it is. To even think of removing it as a compulsory subject from the school syllabus is simply beyond my comprehension. It is in every other country in Europe.

As the Jurassic Park author, Michael Crichton, once said: "If you don't know history, then you don't know anything. You are a leaf that doesn't know it is part of a tree."

"I've been incredibly lucky,' says Dan





NATALIE WARD, Senior Conservation Archaeologist, Peak District National Park Authority and EMMA GRANGE, CAITLIN HALTON and ROBIN HOLGATE of Archaeological Research Services, describe exciting new discoveries in Bakewell

ir Richard Arkwright is a well-known and familiar figure in Derbyshire, and his legacy as the 'Father of the modern industrial factory system' lives on in the buildings and landscape of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site. The wig maker from Preston invented the spinning frame, better known as the water frame, a machine for spinning cotton that could be powered by water, in 1769.

Until the late 18th century, cotton fabric was produced by hand, but the invention of the spinning frame by Arkwright, especially when combined with sources of water power, allowed for thread production to be mechanised. In 1771, he built the first successful water-powered cotton-spinning mill in the world at Cromford, which was the blueprint for the modern factory system and the start of global industrialisation. He continued to build mills in the Derwent Valley over the next 20 years. In 2001, the Derwent Valley Mills and the surrounding landscape were inscribed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in recognition of the outstanding importance

of the area as the birthplace of the factory system. It was here where, in the 18th century, water power was successfully harnessed for textile production for the first time.

Arkwright was also known to have established his third cotton-spinning mill in Bakewell on land adjacent to the River Wye, perhaps due to the limitation of space and with labour at the already established sites in Cromford. It was an ideal site for a mill as it was previously undeveloped and the river offered adequate water power. This was known as Lumford Cotton Mill, and was Arkwright's first mill to harness river power and his most ambitious water-harnessing scheme.

The mill was a narrow building, four storeys high with a single reservoir behind, supplying water to an undershot waterwheel in the centre of the mill. Later there were three reservoirs created behind the mill, supplying water to a wheel in the building. The course of the river was altered in three different places and weirs were constructed to divert the flow of water as required to aid the powering of the mill. The site developed over time, including a new bridge across the river, houses and stabling.

In 1827, a new waterwheel was installed, necessitating extensive changes to water storage and management to maintain the mill operation. By 1840, the reservoirs were filled in and a millrace was constructed to feed this new wheel, and in 1852, a second water wheel was

installed at the mill. Together with the enlarged millpond, millrace, dam wall, tailrace and river bridge, the hydraulic system of post-1820 survives intact and are of national importance and a Scheduled Monument.

In 1868, the Lumford Cotton Mill was gutted by fire, with only the two water-wheels, the workshop, some ancillary riverside buildings and one early 19th century chimney left intact. A single-storey Mule Spinning Shed was constructed in 1875 in part of the footprint of the original 1777 building and this building survives to the present day. Textile manufacturing then continued here for 20 years but ceased in 1896. The site was then purchased by the DP Battery Company, which became one of the leading suppliers of submarine batteries during World War II. In 2016, planning permission was granted for demolition of some of the former mill structures and associated buildings and redevelopment of the site as a hotel. Heritage and archaeology were key considerations in the planning process and decision making. It was acknowledged the site had considerable

archaeological interest because of the potential for the remains of Arkwright's mill to survive. It was also acknowledged that surviving remains of Arkwright's mill could be of national importance and that the redevelopment of the site could result in considerable harm to these remains. So, provision was made for the preservation of nationally-significant remains in situ, for the recording of the historic buildings on site, and for archaeological investigation and recording.

The first stages of archaeological investigation took place in January-February 2018, when ARS recorded the remaining parts of the 1875 Mule Spinning Shed prior to demolition of part of the structure and excavated six trial trenches within the structure as part of the investigative work for designing the foundations for the new Premier Inn. This was the first opportunity to understand the nature and state of preservation of the below ground archaeological remains and to see whether any of the remains of Arkwright's mill survive.

The Mule Spinning Shed would have accommodated rows of spinning mules but all traces of former equipment, including drive shafts, associated with the production of cotton had been removed. The roof consisted of a classic saw-toothed roof supported by cast iron columns with glazed apertures which allowed the sun to shine evenly into the workspace.

The trial trenching revealed a silty layer which postdates the fire at the 1777 mill at a depth of 0.3-0.5m below the current floor level. This was deposited prior to constructing the new mill. Below this deposit were nine walls, a culvert and a stone-slabbed floor. Seven of the walls are built of sandstone blocks and are likely to represent the foundation walls of the original 1777 Arkwright mill. The floor could also be part of the original floor of this mill. In one area, deposits relating to the mill reservoirs and/or associated water management system were discovered that were filled by the late 18th century when the mill was rebuilt. Natalie Ward commented: "This is the first stage of archaeological work on the site, but it has demonstrated that despite later reuse and development, well-preserved remains of Arkwright's third mill survive."





ADAM LATHBURY, Head of Conservation, Heritage & Design at Derbyshire County Council, describes a new masterplan for Elvaston Castle

erbyshire County Council has been working with the newly-formed Elvaston Castle and Gardens Trust to develop a masterplan for the Elvaston Castle Estate. The work builds on the 'Vision' that the County Council produced in partnership with the National Trust. Comments on a draft version of the masterplan were sought from the public and other key stakeholders in the summer of 2018. Following this, the masterplan has been amended.

The masterplan improves access and movement through the 321-acre estate by relocating the car park adjacent to the historic buildings at its core. These buildings will be restored and converted to accommodate uses to enhance visits to Elvaston. These uses will include:-

- Visitor welcome and interpretation
- Visitor facilities, such as toilets
- A new café/restaurant
- Retail and craft units and
- An adventure play area

In combination with this, some spaces and buildings will be managed for 'pop-up' retail units. The ground floor of the castle is to be converted so that it can be used to host weddings, conferences and meetings, as well as a programme of other activities.

Relocation of the car park will also help alleviate much of the adverse pressure placed on the estate's historic

grounds. Currently, as visitors circulate through the estate, the routes that are used are causing root compaction to historically-significant trees, and also eroding the rock structures such as the listed Grotto.

Derbyshire County Council bought the estate in 1968 and it was opened as one of the first Country Parks in England in 1970. However, it is the Stanhope family that is historically linked to Elvaston. The Stanhope family acquired the estate in the 16th century and rose to be the Earls of Harrington in the mid-18th century.

While the estate was improved by the 1st and 2nd Earls, it was the 3rd Earl, Charles Stanhope, who commissioned James Wyatt in the early 1800s to undertake extensive remodelling of the earlier house.

It is rumoured that the 3rd Earl invited Lancelot 'Capability' Brown to Elvaston. If this is true it must have been at the outset of the 3rd Earl's tenure, as Brown died in 1783. It was reported that Brown declared the "place so flat that there was such a lack of capability in it that he would not meddle with it."

In 1829, the estate was inherited by the 4th Earl, also named Charles. He must have been keen to continue the work initiated on the house by his father as he appointed architect Lewis Cottingham to work on extensions and interiors at Elvaston. The 4th Earl also introduced William Barron to Elvaston as Head Gardener in 1830. It was Barron who, more than anyone else, established the character of the park and gardens as we see them today. The 4th Earl was a 19th century eccentric 'dandy' who, towards the end of the 1820s, met and fell in love with Maria Foote, an actress. Apparently, Maria had something of a chequered past. The couple married in 1831 and were



not received well in London society. Partly as a result of this, the Earl and the Countess retreated to Elvaston and he appointed Barron to create romantic pleasure grounds for the newly-married couple.

Barron did this by utilising his passion for conifers, developing the practice of transplanting mature trees and by creating fantastic rockwork structures. Barron worked for the 4th Earl until his death in 1851 and then, with a much reduced garden staff, for the 5th and 6th Earls until he left Elvaston in 1865.

After Barron left, it is anecdotally recorded that the formal pleasure gardens slowly slipped into decline under the Stanhope family. However, this changed in 1928 when the 10th Earl died in a hunting accident just one year after inheriting the title. The 11th Earl was only a boy when he inherited the estate and family title. With the onset of World War II the Stanhope family left Elvaston to live in Ireland.

During the war, Elvaston Castle housed a Teachers' Training College. In 1964, the estate was first put up for sale. Ultimately the estate was purchased

An aerial view of Elvaston Castle

by an aggregates consortium. After a number of failed attempts to gain planning permission to demolish the castle and extract aggregates from the site, the consortium sold the estate to Derbyshire County Council.

The estate was run successfully as a Country Park and Museum for more than three decades. Generations of Derbyshire residents have benefited from school visits, weekend events or simply by walking over and becoming familiar with this rich and diverse landscape. The working estate museum finally closed in the 1990s. The masterplan provides a framework to revitalise the estate to secure public access while protecting its historic and natural significance.

The estate is included on Historic England's Register of Historic Parks and Gardens and has a grade II* listing. In addition to this, many of the buildings on the estate are listed - the castle grade II* and St Bartholomew's Church, grade I.

To find out more about the plans for the Elvaston Castle Estate please visit: www.futureelvaston.co.uk

Elvaston Unlocked: Spirit of Place

As part of the visioning work undertaken in partnership with the National Trust, the following 'spirit of place' statement was produced which endeavours to succinctly summarise the quality of the Elvaston Castle Estate:-

Created by many hands as a haven for a family line, turned by circumstance into a sanctuary for two lovers and transformed into an escape from 'everyday life' for thousands; this continually evolving, miniature world reveals countless glimpses of its long history.

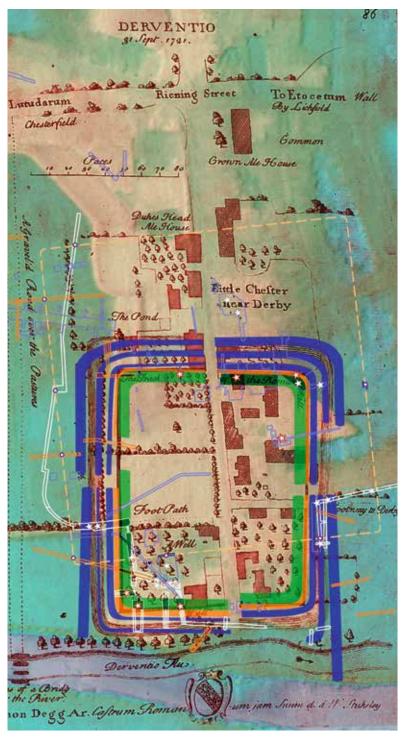
The castle stands at the heart of the estate, overlooking a landscape ranging from majestic conifers and woodland to formal topiary and rock work which inspired so many historic estates. Slightly worn at the edges, this homage to romantic Gothic fantasy still has the power to inspire and surprise with its gleaming gilt and dramatic painted interiors.

Some of the grandeur of Barron's experimental design has been eroded by happy, running feet and generations of exploring hands; the growing power of the Stanhope family has waned, but their enduring creation of fantasy and escapism is still felt throughout the house and grounds.

Was Little Chester Northworthy?

STEVE MALONE of Trent & Peak Archaeology raises the intriguing possibility that Little Chester, Derby, might also be the site of the original Saxon town

The Our City Our River (OCOR) project, developed by the Environment Agency and Derby City Council, was aimed at reducing flood risk on the River Derwent while creating a high-quality riverside, linking the city centre with the river.



Stukeley's 1721 plan overlain on modern topography showing excavation locations and outline of successive forts.



As part of this scheme, flood defences were upgraded at Little Chester, north-east of the city centre, the site of the Roman fort and settlement of Derventio. The scheme was inevitably linear, rather than an open area, but ultimately provided a 500m long transect through the fort, its vicus and defences. It linked together areas previously investigated separately and in a piecemeal fashion, and provided new insights into the history of the Roman and later occupation.

The work was carried out through the planning process in consultation with Historic England and Derbyshire County Council's archaeology team, as advisors to Derby City Council

The site of Little Chester has been well-known since the visit of the antiquarian William Stukeley in the 1720s and was the subject of various 20th century campaigns of excavation, from Sherwin's ground-breaking work of the 1920s, through subsequent investigation from the 1960s to 1980s

These revealed a complex sequence of occupation from a foundation in the late 1st century AD, replacing the early fort at Strutt's Park west of the river, through to late Roman abandonment and possible post-Roman refortification. The OCOR works have identified key elements in this sequence around the fort and its environs allowing new insight particularly into its initial establishment and later reuse.

Large late-1st century ditches were recorded south-west of the fort, inside its north-west corner, and further north and east beneath the vicus in the playing fields. Taken together with evidence from previous excavations, these early ditches, on a differing alignment to the defended area recognised by Stukeley, suggest the extent of an early fort of up to 5ha, the east-west setting of which explains the unusual skewed road alignment within the later fort. Earlier excavations had also identified a burnt horizon on the east and south-east, pre-dating the construction of the turf rampart of the late fort. This had not been seen in excavations within the north-west of the fort, but was found at three points on the western defences during the current works, indicating that this destruction or clearance layer is much more widespread (or perhaps that it was specifically connected to clearance along the

Extensive sampling for radiocarbon dating, combined with Bayesian chronological modelling, will help us refine the dates of this activity even further. The line of Ryknield Street was sectioned within the vicus, north-east of the fort, along with connecting side roads and metalled yard surfaces revealing new information on the layout and

line of the defences).

sequence of activity.

Dating to the very end of the sequence, two human burials were found within the north-west quarter of the fort, presumably part of a wider cemetery also represented by a number of skeletons found by Sherwin close by in the 1920s. Radiocarbon dating was undertaken and dates the oldest to the late 8th or 9th centuries, with the later burial 9th-10th century in date. It would appear that the north-west quarter of the Roman fort was in use as a cemetery by the Mercian inhabitants of Derby, this being contemporary with the return of Aeldorman Aethelwulf's body to Northworthy (the Saxon name for the city) in AD 871, and overlapping the attested Viking occupation and battle 'within the gates' in AD 917.

> and whether it is just synonymous with the site the Danes called Deoraby. The evidence now of burials within the fort defences, along with new evidence for the re-cutting of some of the ditches both on the northern and southern defences. reinforces the claim for Little Chester and adds a new chapter to the history of the site

It has never been clear where Northworthy lay,

A horse harness phalera found in the interior of the fort, indicative of the presence of a cavalry unit.



I can be a HEROand not just for one day!



Dana at work

DANA CAMPBELL, Derbyshire County Council's Historic Environment Record Officer

he working day of a Historic Environment Record Officer (or HERO as the unintentionally immodest acronym goes) is an interesting one, not least because I get to play with old maps and read about archaeology every day.

The largest part of my job is to maintain the Derbyshire Historic Environment Record: a comprehensive and up-to-date database recording all known historic and archaeological sites in the county, coupled with a Geographic Information System (GIS).

I create new records and update existing ones based on the regular flow of new information coming through into the office, from site reports on development-led excavations, or from interested members of the public sharing what they know about their own land. Naturally this involves a lot of time in front of the computer, but occasionally I tag along with the Development Control archaeologists on site visits to see the latest things as they emerge from the ground.

Near Clowne, for example, an exciting and challenging multi-period site is under excavation: a large-scale alignment of possibly Neolithic postholes, followed by substantial Roman activity in the form of stone building foundations, finally with a series of Saxon period sunkenfloor dwellings (see feature on p25).

Back in the office, my day usually begins with checking to see if anyone has requested a new data search. The information that the HER curates underpins most of the archaeological advice given to developers and planners, and lets them consider the preservation of heritage assets as a part of sustainable development.

Members of the public can access this resource for free, including all the source material behind our digital HER records, a library of unpublished archaeological reports, books and journals, photographs and copies of historic maps (all served with cups of tea if desired!).

Lately there have been a huge number of queries from farmers and landowners via the Higher Level Stewardship Scheme, a Natural England land management programme that offers funds to help preserve and protect archaeological sites in working agricultural landscapes. Having a perfectly valid excuse to pore over aerial photographs looking for bumps, barrows, rings and ditches is a bonus.

Often this gives us a chance to examine sites that, while known, haven't been reported on in decades. A small barrow by the side of a laneway in Shottle was previously described only by a short visit in the 1960s, but now it's better documented by a series of aerial photographs, and its future preservation is now all but guaranteed by the landowner and Natural England.

Recently we've also been looking for ways to become more involved and active when it comes to the work of local historical and archaeological groups: we hope to assist the Northeast Derbyshire Archaeological Society with their plan to record the survival and condition of mill sites along the River Rother, for example.

The HER is also going to host the results (data, reports, photographs) of the DerwentWISE Heritage at Risk Project (see ACID 2017), where members of the public have volunteered to carry out surveys of local heritage sites. Documenting these buildings and monuments in their current state will help conservation specialists prevent their loss in the future.

Enhancing the HER is an endless task and we have a long list of projects just waiting for interested people to come and help in any way they are able. Last year, for example, 477 planning applications in Derbyshire required archaeological advice.

All archaeological fieldwork takes a great deal of time to incorporate into our system, so if you're interested in volunteering or want some practical work experience in the heritage sector, please let us know! Contact me at: dana.campbell@derbyshire.gov.uk





ocated on the edge of Ashford-in-the-Water is a small group of buildings that once functioned as a busy agricultural watermill grinding corn for the surrounding area, with its associated outbuildings and cottages.

They were in a declining condition, but the historic fixtures and machinery of the mill survived, including the millstones, hoppers, corn drying kiln, power drive shafts and trap doors. It was a remarkably complete survival of an historic mill.

The earliest reference to a mill at Ashford is from the Domesday Survey of 1086, although no traces of this structure have been located. The majority of the surviving structure dates from the 17th and 19th centuries. In 2014, plans were developed to secure the future of this important building with a new use and to secure the longterm preservation of the surviving historic features. A staged process was required in order to fully understand the historic and archaeological importance of the site and for this to feed into the design and detail of the restoration scheme and plans for the new use, so that as much of the internal fixtures, fittings and machinery as possible could

This required the involvement of a host of specialists, including building conservation officers and the conservation archaeologist from the Peak District National Park Authority. The owner, Dr Robert Griffiths, appointed heritage consultants and a historic buildings architect, and various architectural, structural, historic building and archaeological surveys and investigations were carried out to assess its condition and significance.

Planning permission and Listed Building consent were granted for the conversion of the mill to residential use, and for the repair and restoration of the building. The scheme that received consent allowed for the vast majority of the mill's machinery and infrastructure to be retained. and to form a feature of the finished conversion. It also secured additional recording to create a permanent record of the building prior to alteration and

archaeological investigation during groundworks and changes to historic fabric as a condition of consent. This was done to ensure that the archaeological and historic interest of the site was safeguarded, and so any negative impacts were appropriately mitigated.

All the work to restore the mill, conversion to domestic use, and the associated archaeological work, which took just under two years, is now complete, and a high-quality conversion, costing between £650,000 and £750,000, has

The archaeological recording work identified seven principal phases of alteration, from the early 17th century

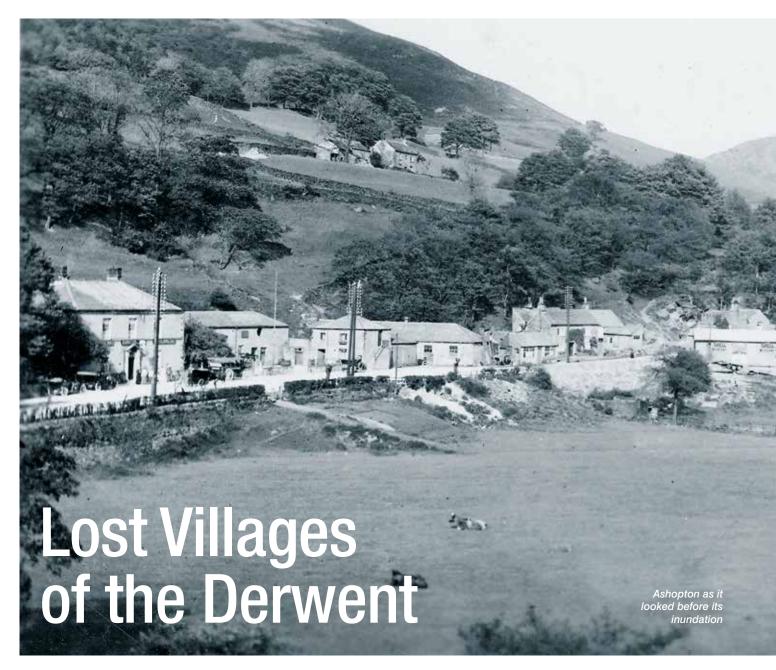
through to the present day. The main period of change was in the 19th century, when a drying kiln was added. The whole of the building was totally remodelled and the mill machinery upgraded in the 1860s to 1870s, including the addition of six



new French burr sandstone grinding wheels, supplied by Hughes of London.

Interestingly, much of the timberwork in the building appears to have been reused, including a section from a 17th century carved frieze, although it is not known from what building this came. The addition of the drying kiln in the mid-19th century would have greatly enhanced the overall capacity of the mill, and the structure was found to be relatively intact, constructed from a frame of cast-iron elements that supported ceramic tiles pierced with holes. The renovation of the building was undertaken to ensure that these features last into the future, adopting a philosophy that was intended to display the industrial machinery and enhance the historic structure of the mill, while making limited external changes.

Power drive and transfer machinery before restoration



KATHLEEN HEARNSHAW of the Bamford History Group introduces a project designed to bring the drowned villages of Derwent and Ashopton back to life

he two lost villages of Derwent and Ashopton lie beneath Ladybower Reservoir near Bamford in the Upper Derwent Valley in the Peak District National Park.

The Ladybower dam was built between 1935 and 1943 by the Derwent Valley Water Board to supplement the other two reservoirs (Howden and Derwent, built 1900-1916) in supplying the growing need for water for the cities of the East Midlands and Sheffield. It was filled in 1945, and the two villages it destroyed were never to be seen again. However, last year, a rare collection of photographs of Derwent and Ashopton emerged. It was offered for sale by Hanson's Auctioneers of Derby on behalf of an anonymous seller. There was a lot of interest in the national press and locally in Bamford of course.

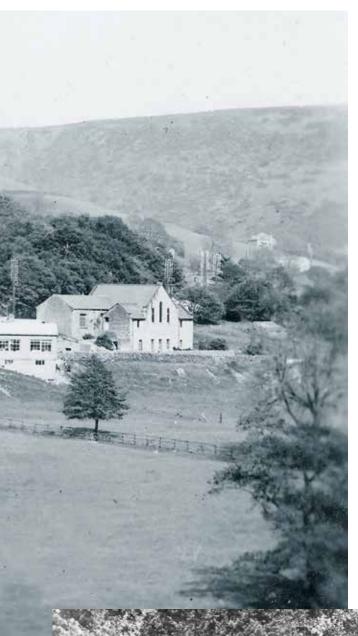
Bamford and District History Group made a successful bid at auction and bought the album.

There are 163 photographs and postcards in the collection, some of which have been seen before, but most of them are rarely seen glimpses into the past, showing images of life as it was in this rural idyll.

With the current interest in conservation, one cannot imagine these two villages, with a Jacobean manor house (Derwent Hall) and an ancient Toll House (at Ashopton,) as well as many beauty spots, farms, ancient bridges and a Methodist Chapel and Parish Church, being demolished and consigned to a watery grave. The people who lived in the two villages were rehoused in Yorkshire Bridge estate at Bamford and surrounding areas.

Bamford History Group was approached by the Digital Computing Department of Chesterfield College with an offer of collaboration to provide a 'live' project for students, in return for sharing digital images and 'virtual reality' examples of a walk through Ashopton.

An exhibition was held in Bamford in April last year to display the photographs and the excellent work done by the students, which brought history to life. The exhibition





The Ashopton viaduct towers over the doomed village



The Ashopton Inn as reimagined in the Chesterfield College video

was held over two days and attracted over 400 people. We plan to have more exhibitions as the project progresses. The video produced by the students can be seen by searching 'Memories of Ashopton' on YouTube. The most satisfying part of this process has been meeting people with a family connection to Derwent and Ashopton, especially meeting and interviewing those who lived there as children and recording their memories, which is an ongoing part of the project.

For more information, contact: Bamford.history@gmail.com



A coach-and-four outside the former Ashopton Inn



RICHARD TUFFREY of High Peak Borough Council relates the chequered history of Buxton's Crescent and the plans for its re-opening after restoration this year

Restoration work is now well underway on one of the UK's most ambitious heritage regeneration projects which will see Buxton's famous Crescent being given a new life as a luxury spa hotel.

The £60 million Buxton Crescent and Thermal Spa project is a joint initiative of High Peak Borough Council and Derbyshire County Council, the joint owners of the Crescent, the adjoining Natural Baths and the Pump Room.

The Buxton Crescent Hotel and Thermal Spa Company, a joint venture of the Osborne Property Group and CP Holdings Ltd, was appointed by the two authorities in 2003 to work as partners to create an 80-bed luxury hotel, a natural mineral water spa complex and six shops. A new charitable trust has also been established to design and manage a visitor centre, focussing on Buxton's Georgian and Victorian spa heritage.

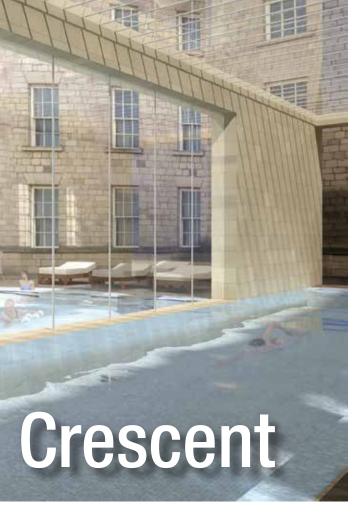
The project has been an incredible 18 years in the making, as the design team has faced huge difficulties in ensuring the protection of the natural mineral water (the source of which lies underneath one of the project buildings) and grappling with major structural problems in parts of the buildings. Another cause for delay was the financial crash of 10 years ago, which affected the developers' investment plans and led to the loss of grant funding promised from



Back of the spa building (the former Natural Baths), with the new spa extension (left)



Work nearing completion



the former East Midlands Development Agency. Thankfully, these problems have now been overcome with a revised funding package involving the developers and a huge £23.85 million grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund – one of the largest ever given. Derbyshire County Council, D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership, High Peak Borough Council and Historic England are also funding the project.

The Grade I listed Crescent was designed by John Carr of York as two hotels (one incorporating the sumptuously-decorated Assembly Room) and six lodging houses. It was the centrepiece of the 5th Duke of Devonshire's plans for

a north of England spa town in line with the burgeoning fashion of the day at places like Bath.

Although the town's relative remoteness impeded the 18th century development, Buxton went on to flourish as a major inland resort in the 19th century following the arrival of railways from both Manchester and London in 1863. The Victorian expansion included the Natural Baths (1853, Grade II listed) and the Pump Room (1889, Grade II listed). The Crescent has suffered a rather chequered history in recent years, and was latterly occupied by the St Ann's Hotel, the town's library and Derbyshire County Council offices. The County Council were forced to move out of the building following the discovery of serious structural problems in 1992. At around the same time, the St Ann's Hotel was acquired by High Peak Borough Council using funds provided by the National Heritage Memorial Fund and following the serving of a Repairs Notice, on account of its poor condition, by the Secretary of State under listed buildings legislation.

The plight of the building was then championed by English Heritage, particularly by its then Chairman, Sir Jocelyn Stevens, when a £1.5 million grant was approved to undertake urgent repairs in the mid-1990s.

Following the completion of the urgent repairs, the two authorities attempted, unsuccessfully, to attract market interest in the buildings. However, when it became clear that no viable schemes were going to come forward, they launched and promoted the present Buxton Crescent and Thermal Spa project themselves in 2000.

Work on the Crescent is planned to be completed in time for the hotel and spa's opening in 2019. It will be the highpoint of a £100 million programme of heritage-led regeneration projects which has also seen the town's Opera House, Pavilion Gardens and Slopes restored. In addition, the same period has witnessed the closure of the Devonshire Royal Hospital and its re-opening as the Buxton Campus of the University of Derby in 2005.

In preparation for the opening of the Crescent and Thermal Spa next year, the town is currently putting together a Visitor Economy Strategy and an Action Plan in readiness for the expected surge in interest.



The rooftop of the Crescent

The Hanging Banks of Wingerworth Wingerworth **excavation produced a small quantity of late Romano-British pottery. Most of the activity currently assumed to belong to this phase.



STEVE MALONE and RICHARD PARKER of Trent & Peak Archaeology describe a recently discovered Romano-British site at Wingerworth

Romano-British enclosure discovered in advance of housing development at Hanging Banks, Derby Road, Wingerworth, seems to indicate a close relationship with the Roman military fort at Chesterfield. Trent & Peak Archaeology, in partnership with University of Leicester Archaeological Services, was commissioned by Bellway Homes to undertake archaeological excavation at Hanging Banks in advance of residential development as part of the planning consent. The excavations, which were carried out through the planning process in consultation with Historic England and Derbyshire County Council's archaeology team, as advisors to North East Derbyshire District Council, took place between October 2017 and May 2018.

The proposed development site was divided into three targeted areas, based on geophysical survey and trial trenching results. The earliest activity was some 1.6ha in extent, sitting on the slightly higher ground in the northwest of the site.

The western part of this area was characterised by a series of small rectangular enclosures containing associated pits and postholes. Dating evidence was sparse except for a single pit which produced a sherd of late Neolithic/early Bronze Age pottery, most likely residual.

A little lower down the slope, a single roundhouse gully with associated features was observed which on

excavation produced a small quantity of late Iron Age/ Romano-British pottery. Most of the activity here is currently assumed to belong to this phase. Overlaying these earlier features were a NW-SE trackway and furrows and field boundaries of medieval and post-

and furrows and field boundaries of medieval and postmedieval date. Towards the eastern edge of Area 03, a wide shallow hollow is thought to represent an earlier line of the Derby Road ascending the slope towards Wingerworth and Chesterfield.

The densest area of archaeological features lay in Area 01, about 1.8ha in extent, in the south of the site. Evidence for prehistoric activity was lower in this area except for a substantial 8m-wide ditch in the south-west corner of the site and extending beyond, not directly dated but cut by early Roman features.

The area was otherwise dominated by a large rectangular enclosure defined by a substantial 3m-wide ditch with a single 5m-wide eastern entrance. The enclosure was 100m east-west and at least 66m north-south (potentially up to 110m, if the eastern entrance is central), extending beyond the limits of the site, and dating to the 1st century AD. Inside the enclosure were various associated features including smaller rectilinear ditched enclosures, foundations of a small stone building, pad-stone alignments and large stone-packed post holes, suggestive of at least two large timber-built aisled structures, all generally dating to the 1st to 2nd century AD. A number of corn-drying kilns and possible bread ovens were also identified, several deliberately placed around the periphery of the enclosure on the inner edge of the main enclosure ditch, utilising it to cast the waste kiln/oven material away.

From the fill of one of the large stone-packed postholes came an unusual enamelled model stand, a distinctively British artefact type, of which only some 25 examples are known, generally from temple and/or military sites. Further features of Romano-British date were also observed outside the enclosure after it had apparently fallen into disuse, suggesting that this initial phase was not long-lived. These consisted of a large oval enclosure, a group of roundhouse gullies with associated pits, postholes, hearth features and associated compacted stone track-ways crossing over the backfilled enclosure ditch, as well as the remains of another possible stone structure. However, very little later Roman material was recovered and the site appears have been largely out of use by the 3rd century AD.

The unusual form of the enclosure, along with its early Roman date and evidence for concentrated cereal and/ or bread production indicates a relationship with the military economy, if not with direct military involvement, because the site is very close to the line of Ryknield Street and only about three miles south of the fort at Chesterfield.

The recovered artefacts would not appear to point to any high status, but the enamelled bronze miniature stand would be an unusual find in a purely rural, civil, context.



NATALIE WARD explains new guidance designed to help the understanding of Peak District farmsteads

istoric farmsteads make a significant and valued contribution to the Peak District's rich and distinctive heritage, and are an integral part of the landscape of

the National Park.

A recent research project funded by Historic England used historic mapping and modern aerial imagery to understand the survival of historic farmsteads in the area. and to develop an evidence base to understand how traditional farm buildings of 19th century and earlier contribute to local distinctiveness and sense of place.

The historic character and survival of over 2.500 farmsteads and a total of 2,614 field barns and

outfarms have been recorded across the Peak District, many of which were previously unrecorded. Field barns are single farm buildings located away from the main farmstead to help manage the land in that area. Outfarms are small groups of buildings, possibly with a yard or even a small cottage for a farm worker. The buildings are usually multi-purpose, with shelter for cattle and areas for storage of feed (corn or hay). They could be located out in a field, or they could be alongside a road for ease of access. Both types make a special and significant contribution to local character and distinctiveness, with strong contrasts between the areas of predominantly nucleated settlement in the White Peak, and the more dispersed settlement in the uplands of the South West and Dark Peaks. An important characteristic of Peak District farmsteads, outfarms and field barns is the generally small scale of the farmstead groups, typical of upland areas in England. The Peak District has an exceptionally high survival of traditional farm buildings and historic farmsteads when compared with most of England.

87 per cent of the Peak District's recorded farmsteads have heritage potential as traditional farmsteads because they have retained some or all of their historic form.

83 per cent have high heritage potential because they have retained more than 50 per cent of their historic form. This is very high in a national context.

4 per cent have some heritage potential because they have

retained some (less than 50 per cent) of their historic form. 42per cent of field barns and 59 per cent of outfarms survive in some form. These figures are high, in a national context, particularly when compared to lowland areas of England, where these buildings have rarely survived.

The levels of survival are lowest in the Dark Peak and highest in the White Peak. Only a very small percentage of historic farmsteads have been completely lost from

Diagram showing how a Peak District farmstead worked. (Drawing © Jeremy Lake, Bob Edwards)

the landscape or completely rebuilt, and even these could retain significant below-ground archaeological remains. Changes to historic farm buildings and within historic farmsteads are inevitable if they are to be retained as a distinctive part of the landscape. However, this change has to be sensitive to the historic character and significance of these valued heritage assets, and new uses have to be found that enhance their historic character and significance. The Peak District Historic Farmstead Project has provided a wealth of data on our historic farmsteads and farm buildings that can now be used by decision and policy makers in and around the National Park.

It has also produced a suite of guidance documents that will be of use to landowners, building owners, land agents, planning agents and architects, and it complements a revised set of historic farmstead guidance documents from Historic

All project reports and Farmstead Guidance documents are freely available at www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/ historicfarmsteads

Discovering pre-Capability Chatsworth

The coming of the RHS show to Chatsworth gave Natalie Ward, Senior Conservation Archaeologist for the Peak District National Park Authority and Oliver Jessop, Director of The JESSOP Consultancy, the chance to investigate

he landscape at Chatsworth is a complex palimpsest of landscape features, many of which pre-date the numerous phases of gardening and landscaping schemes. These features have archaeological significance in their own right and contribute to the significance of the Grade I Registered Park and Garden and the setting of the Grade I Listed House and other Listed structures within the parkland.

The Royal Horticultural Society show site is in the centre of this historic landscape and contains subtle earthwork features and remains and areas where below-ground archaeological deposits are likely to survive. These include:-

- The remains of an elaborate 16th and 17th century water gardens along the banks of the Derwent that formed a dramatic setting to the House
- The site of a medieval mill
- The site of an 18th century kitchen garden
- Part of the medieval village of Edensor and its network of fields and
- The site of a lost packhorse bridge over the River Derwent

All were swept away during the extensive re-modelling of the landscape by Lancelot "Capability" Brown in the 1760s.

So, when planning permission was granted by the National Park Authority to the RHS for a new show at Chatsworth in 2017, archaeology and heritage were key considerations. Conditions were attached to the planning decision to protect these significant archaeological features within the landscape; to ensure appropriate



Sherds of 18th century pottery



The dig underway, with the House in the background



Recycled architectural stonework

investigation and recording was undertaken in those areas affected by the show and to monitor its impact upon the surviving archaeological earthworks.

The works to date for the 2017 and 2018 shows, coordinated by The JESSOP Consultancy and undertaken with a team from CFA Archaeology, have been targeted on areas of impact, but have provided further insight into the use and transformation of this exceptional landscape.

The archaeological investigations have demonstrated how extensive the re-landscaping of the parkland was in the 1760s, and that this included both levelling of the medieval field systems and the introduction of stone drains.

A number of drains from this period were encountered during the investigations and, unusually, some incorporated fragments of re-used architectural stone, interpreted as being from the bases of metal railings around the former gardens. The recycling of stone from earlier structures is not uncommon at Chatsworth, but these stones (and associated railings) are likely to have come from an area of the gardens to the south of the House that is poorly understood, having been completely re-modelled in the 1760s.

Excavations also revealed further evidence of an earlier kitchen garden, with multiple sherds of 18th century pottery from free-standing pots for ornamental and horticultural use recovered. Some of the vessels were decorated with a pinched motif and had traces of a coloured slip. Investigations also revealed evidence for the widening of the river, possibly dating to the 1760s, confirming that it had once been much wider than today. The bank was retained by a revetment comprising of timber posts, eight of which were still found buried in the former river silts.



REUBEN THORPE, Senior Project Manager for Archaeological Research Services, on a possible long-lived tribal boundary near Clowne

rchaeological Research Services Ltd has been working with Jones Homes Yorkshire Ltd, excavating a multi-period site in advance of a new housing development near Clowne.

The excavations were again carried out through the planning process in consultation with Historic England and Derbyshire County Council's archaeology team, as advisors to Bolsover District Council.

So far the excavations have revealed a succession of pit alignments, probably dating to the Bronze Age, as well as evidence of buildings, enclosures, pits and postholes, which span the prehistoric to the medieval periods. Prehistoric pit alignments similar to that found at Clowne occur elsewhere in the county, as at Ashton-on-Trent and at Willington. They are thought to have been territorial boundaries and are generally attributed to the first millennium BC.

What is interesting about the pit alignment at Clowne is that the boundary has been vigorously re-cut, with pits so extensively excavated over time that they ultimately formed a large ditch. Generally, each of the individual pits seems to have been about 2m wide and in excess of 2m deep, and seem to have silted up gradually before being re-cut.

Their orientation in the landscape corresponds with other archaeological linear features, revealed by aerial A later enclosure line is being excavated immediately to the north (top) and the foundations of part of a later structure can be seen in the top right corner

photography to lie to the west. Might it be that this alignment of pits represents a long-lived tribal border? So far the artefacts recovered have been few, though a few late Neolithic/early Bronze Age flint tools have been found in the lower fills of some of the pits.

Roman occupation, still under excavation at the time of writing, seems to mainly lie to the north of the earlier pit alignment. However, there is evidence that a later, possibly Roman, building was sited directly over this earlier boundary.



The complexes of pits can be seen as the darker brown marks in the centre and top left of the picture



he most exciting Derbyshire find recorded on the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) database last year was a beautiful Neolithic polished flint axe head dating to between c.4000 BC and c.2200 BC (DENO-60CCE4). It was discovered by a metal detectorist in Morton, in North East Derbyshire, where it was lying on the surface of a ploughed field.

Polishing it must have taken between five and 40 hours, and was intended to reduce the chance of the axe breaking on impact, but also had a more aesthetic function. There is no evidence of use on its cutting edge, suggesting that this was a prized possession rather than a tool. Similar axes have been found ritually deposited in watery areas and burials. The field in which the axe head was discovered is adjacent to a river, which might indicate that the axe was a votive deposit.

More than 8,000 objects have been recorded in Derbyshire under the scheme, many of them coins from coin hoards. Most of the finds are discovered by metal detectorists, but

we also record objects found by other members of the public while gardening or out walking.

The Portable Antiquities Scheme is a project to record archaeological objects found by the public across England and Wales. Since it was founded in 1997, the PAS has recorded more than 1.3 million objects on its online database at https://finds.org.uk/database.

The PAS database is an important resource for researchers studying the past, both locally and at national level. Finds recorded on our database help to fill in gaps in our knowledge of the past and have been responsible for the discovery of many previously unknown sites, especially in rural areas. It demonstrates the benefits of cooperation between archaeologists and the public, particularly with responsible metal detectorists.

If you make a find like this, contact Alastair Willis on 01332 641903, or at Alastair@derbymuseums.org Alastair Willis, Finds Liaison Officer for Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire

Catherine takes the helm in the South West Peak



Catherine proudly displays the certificate won by the Tudor Farming Interpretation Group

he South West Peak Landscape Partnership is a group of bodies working to restore, protect, and improve the landscape of the South West Peak. With the Peak District National Park Authority as lead partner and with the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund, this five-year scheme will work with local communities to build stronger connections with the landscape, and their natural and cultural heritage.

Catherine Parker Heath was appointed as the Cultural Heritage Officer for the partnership in early 2018. She is responsible for managing the Barns and Buildings Conservation and Small Heritage Adoption projects. She works with landowners, communities and volunteers in the South West Peak to identify, record, research and, where possible, repair, conserve or consolidate barns and other heritage features in the area.

With qualifications and experience in archaeology and teaching, Catherine has recently worked as project manager with the Tudor Farming Interpretation Group for a community project based at Under Whitle Farm, near Sheen (see ACID 2017). The project won a special commendation at the East Midlands Heritage Awards. Alongside this role, she worked for Sheffield Industrial Museums Trust developing and delivering workshops. While studying for her doctorate in archaeology, she was an Adult Education Tutor teaching the Archaeology of Britain and the Peak District. Catherine has lived in

the Peak District since 2001 with her husband and four children, and she says she was drawn here because of the special qualities of the landscape and its cultural heritage.

Catherine told ACID: "I am thoroughly enjoying my role as Cultural Heritage Officer. The fact I get to go out and undertake fieldwork alongside volunteers, meeting interesting people and active community groups, is brilliant. Hopefully we are making a big difference in recording heritage that otherwise would not be recorded or even known about.

"The biggest challenge I see at the moment will be making the decisions about which barns and heritage assets we can repair, and which will have to wait for another time."



LOTTERY FUNDED



Spot the motte: Bakewell's Norman castle revealed



Bakewell's Norman motte and bailey castle was being smothered by trees. JAN STETKA of the Bakewell and District Historical Society tells the story of its recovery

> ver the years, about 100 trees had effectively hidden Bakewell's medieval motte and bailey castle, and the Bakewell Historical Society became concerned about root damage to the structure.

So we approached the Town Council, which owns the land, and it paid for a tree survey to recommend which trees should be removed to minimise damage and maximise the view across Bakewell from the top of the motte. Historic England agreed that about half should

The mayor at the time, Steve Edwards, supervised a team from the society in cutting down identified trees and removing them from the site. We were also grateful to local farmer John Corbridge, who used his chainsaws and removal vehicle to clear the site.

After several days of removing debris, the structural elements to the motte were revealed. A spiral path ascended the mound to where a wooden look-out tower would have stood. The motte itself is a truncated cone 11 feet high and 35 feet across at the summit.

A neat conical sinkage, five feet deep, was found at the centre of the summit. We found another excavated motte with such a feature and post holes located nearby. So we thoroughly cleared the moss from the sides of the sinkage and found that it had been lined with cut stone, much of which had been robbed in the past. We re-covered the pit to protect what is left.

We think it could have been a basement storage pit for water from the roof and a cool area for food storage. The spiral path widens to a possible cooking area away from the wooden palisade, as shown in the Bayeux Tapestry. In 1972, when housing development had threatened Castle Hill, the earthen motte and bailey banks were

investigated by archaeology students from Manchester University. Trenches were dug crossing possible ditches and entering the base of the motte.

Sherds of pottery were found, indicating a construction date of about AD 1200, and the motte was found to be of a layered construction, with the lower layers containing rough stone and the upper layers sealed with clay. No evidence of a stone structure or military function was found, but the site was scheduled to prevent future

We suggest the function of the motte and bailey was that it was built to control taxation at the time. The 13th century was a period when the Normans took control of all trade. When the area was in the Danelaw, it was organised into areas called wapentakes, and the Normans adopted this method of control. The High Peak Wapentake was controlled from the motte at Bakewell.

A high observation tower made sure that movement was monitored and taxed at the borders of the wapentakes. A sinuous border such as the River Dove required several towers, and this has been found to be the case. The most valuable commodity on the packhorse way through Bakewell was salt, travelling from Cheshire to Chesterfield. There was also a lucrative return trade in lead, used to fashion the salt evaporation pans, and coal to heat them. Salt from Cheshire was collected at Congleton into packhorse trains for the various market towns in the Peak. The late David Hey, formerly Emeritus Professor of Local and Family History at the University of Sheffield, estimated that as many as 100 packhorses per day passed through Bakewell. This would require several men-at-arms at Bakewell to safeguard their passage and make sure that the necessary taxes and tolls were collected. Each packhorse was charged half a silver penny at Bakewell and Pilsbury, when the standard wage of a farm worker was one silver penny per day. In addition, hundreds of traders paid an annual licence to trade at

Coverted to modern values, the packhorse trade was worth about £200,000 a year to Bakewell, sufficient to maintain the motte and bailey, the Moor Hall manor house and the packhorse way from Pilsbury to Chesterfield. I have taken Professor Hey's figures from his 1980 book Packmen, Carriers and Packhorse Roads and converted them to present day values.

Bakewell market.

Now, a few stones in the basement of the motte are all that remain to remind us of this lost world of medieval trade. To visit the motte, park at the former Bakewell railway station. Walk a few steps down Station Road into Burre Close. Follow the curve of the close to the finger post to the motte and bailey. There is public access but please leave no litter. Burre Close was so named by the Victorians, who thought the castle was a 10th century burh. But that is another story.

Coin cache from Clowne



Silver penny of Henry II, coined by Willem of



MARTHA JASKO-LAWRENCE, Curator of Archaeology, Museums Sheffield, describes a hoard of medieval coins found at Clowne

very year thousands of archaeological objects are discovered by the public during walking, gardening and especially metal detecting. They are encouraged to report all finds of objects over 300 years old to the Portable Antiquities Scheme.

They are, however, legally required to report 'Treasure'. Treasure has a complicated legal definition but includes any prehistoric finds of two or more items, any finds of two or more coins, and any item containing over 10 per cent silver or gold. The local museum is then given the opportunity to acquire the items if it wishes.

Through the Treasure process, Museums Sheffield last year acquired a hoard of ten 12th century silver pennies and halfpennies, found in a field north of Clowne by members of the Coil To The Soil metal detecting group. One coin was issued by King Stephen (1135-54) and the other nine by King Henry II (1154-1197), so the hoard was probably lost in the 1160s. Their discovery adds to the evidence telling the medieval history of Clowne.

Clowne (the slightly-comical name is thought to derive from the nearby River Clun) was mentioned in the Domesday Book and is reputed to be of Saxon origin. However, there is little historical evidence for this period within the village. The village church is known to have been constructed during the reign of King Stephen in the mid-12th century.

Investigations at Mill Street in 2003 ahead of the construction of a supermarket revealed part of the extent of the 12th-13th century settlement including an early burgage (property held under a rent) plot, but the extent and layout of Saxon and medieval Clowne is still relatively poorly understood.

Although the hoard is small, coins and coin hoards of the mid to late 12th century are incredibly rare. This was a period where a lack of silver and a challenging political climate meant that only small amounts of silver were in circulation. The Clowne hoard is the only one of its date found in Derbyshire. In neighbouring Yorkshire, there has been only one other hoard of this date found (the

Bramham Moor hoard, discovered in 1753).

Coins of this period were all handmade. A coin blank was

placed in between an upper and lower die which were then struck with a hammer to impress the design. As every die was hand-made there are small differences between coins in the shape of the face, the letters and other elements that can be observed by looking at each coin under a microscope. Hundreds of dies were employed to strike coins, making millions of coins.

The hoard is unusual in that includes two 'die-linked' coins. These were coins which were struck using the same die. Where we find two die-linked coins together then there is a reasonable possibility that they circulated together throughout their whole life, from striking in the mint in Lincoln to being hidden or lost in Clowne. In this context, it is probably significant that these were the latest coins added to the hoard, without enough time to be split up and spent separately.

The coins all began their lives as silver pennies. However, there was never enough small change in England meaning that some were literally cut in half to produce halfpennies. It is rare to find pennies and halfpennies together in a hoard suggesting that this is likely to have been a dropped purse, or similar container, representing everyday coins lost.

On the reverse of the coins, the moneyer and mint are named. The hoard has coins struck at seven different mints including London, Lincoln, York and Bury St Edmunds in Suffolk. The moneyers were wealthy men in England's major towns, overseeing the production of coins.

Among the hoard it is noticeable that most of these men have French names (Pieres, Willem etc.), reflecting the fashion for French identity amongst the elite of the 12th century. This can be contrasted with the 'Svein' of Lincoln who maintains a Scandinavian name, the overwhelming cultural identity of northern England before the Norman Conquest.

The hoard is now on display in the archaeology gallery at Weston Park Museum. The acquisition was supported by Arts Council England/V&A Purchase Grant Fund.

Finding jewels in a junk box: in praise of volunteers



Volunteers testing the Wonders of the Peak web app outside the Pavilion Gardens

ROS WESTWOOD, Derbyshire Museums Manager, describes the essential work of volunteers

t would be marvellous to think that museum curators know everything about the collections they look after and, indeed, have the time to research the collection before making new displays. But alas, that is merely a myth. Yes, there are still specialist curators, but really, most people who get to see and handle the collection are loyal volunteers, hoping to find another jewel in a junk box. As Buxton Museum volunteer Brian Goodwin once said to me: "I never expected to handle a letter from Charles Darwin."

Buxton Museum was preoccupied throughout 2017 with the redevelopment of the Wonders of the Peak gallery and its intriguing companion website, www. wondersofthepeak.org.uk. This web-app will accompany you on all your walks, sharing with you the Wonders held in museum collections while you are in the landscape, the pub or at home. You can also go shopping, selecting images of favourite archaeological artefacts to be illustrated on sweatshirts, picnic equipment, dinner mats or notecards.



Lithics volunteers Bob and David hard at work

But this has all happened with the support of our knowledgeable volunteers, who share their specialist enthusiasm in return for the company of like-minded people, interested to learn new skills, and keen to learn the museum way of doing things. These include documenting the collection, carefully cleaning artefacts and packing them safely as they return to display or store. Volunteer Ian Gregory has discovered many curious stories working with the photographs which he has shared in interesting blog posts at: www. buxtonmuseumandartgallery.wordpress.com. Three volunteers – Bob Higginbotham, David Spooner and Tim Greenhalgh – have spent three years reviewing the Peak District Lithics (stone tools) Transect artefacts. Last year, they were asked to upset their neat arrangement as specimens went on display. Meanwhile, Patrick Sutton, another regular volunteer, revisited the Buxton Baths hoard, so that now visitors can spend time in front of the coins, noting the emperors, their mean expressions and elegant hairstyles.



Volunteer Patrick taking part in a conservation workshop during the Collections in the Landscape project

Patrick's enthusiasm for all things coin encouraged Buxton Museum to successfully agree the loan of the British Museum's exhibition "Hoards: The Hidden History of Ancient Britain", which will be on show between April and June, 2019. Work placements from local colleges and schools and people wanting to improve their confidence and employability have scanned and manipulated images to create a fascinating, changing display of photographs from the archives.

Without our regular team of volunteers (alas, there is no space to name them all), so much of the behind the scenes work would not be done. Instead, the museum's database is steadily being enriched with information about the Peak District, its geology, archaeology and cultural development, helping staff at the museum to respond to visitor enquiries.



he Peak District Young Archaeologists' Club (YAC) meets once a month to embark on adventures into the past and discover the archaeology of the Peak District and beyond. We take part in exciting activities and trips to explore history, discover archaeology and bring the past to life. The branch is run by a dedicated team of volunteers with an enthusiasm for archaeology. We even have some former branch members who have graduated to be adult volunteers.

The YAC is the only UK-wide club for young people from the age of eight up to 16 who are interested in archaeology. YAC's vision is for all young people to have opportunities to be inspired and excited by archaeology, and to empower them to help shape its future. There are YAC branches run by volunteers across the United Kingdom and they are supported by the Council for British Archaeology.

The Peak District National Park Authority's Senior Conservation Archaeologist, Natalie Ward, has recently taken over running the branch, and she filled us in on what the Peak District YAC has been up to over the past 12 months.

"It has been an action-packed and diverse year for the group," said Natalie. "We have explored the Anglo-Saxon origins of Bakewell, trying to identifying the site of the lost burh (Saxon fortification) and recording the crosses in the churchyard. We have learned about Cypriot archaeology and contributed to a museum exhibition with the help of Museums Sheffield.

"We got hands-on experience in the field by joining in with the Castleton Historical Society's and the University of Sheffield's excavations in Castleton. We have investigated specialisms such as archaeometallurgy, and tried getting into the mindsets of Isambard Kingdom Brunel and Thomas Telford by getting to grips with some real historical engineering problems. We have learned about diet in the past by excavating coprolites (thankfully they weren't real!), and played some historical games. And, of course, we donned historical fancy dress for our annual Christmas Party, which is a bit of a Peak District YAC

"At YAC we are nurturing a future generation of archaeologists and heritage professionals who will care for our heritage. But members will also include future doctors, politicians, builders, planners, developers, leaders and decision makers.

"By providing opportunities for children and young people to learn about archaeology and history in a fun and informal way, we can plant a seed about the importance

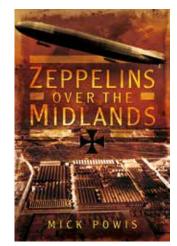
On a dig in Castleton

of our shared heritage in children, and they will take that with them whatever direction they go in life, growing up to care about heritage, to value it and to support its conservation."

The YAC group is great fun to be involved with, and we are currently looking for new members and adult volunteers. To find out more contact the branch leader on natalie. ward@peakdistrict.gov.uk

To find out more about YAC nationally or to make a donation to support YAC's work, visit the YAC website http://www.yac-uk.org/

Zeppelins over the Midlands



Mick Powis

Pen & Sword Publishing, £19.99 hb

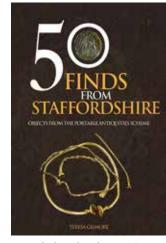
The Second World War Luftwaffe bombing raids on the key industrial targets of Derby are well-documented. Not so well known are the First World War Zeppelin raids of January 31, 1916, which killed 35 people in Burton on Trent, five in Derby and two in

Ilkeston, and are the subject of this fascinating book. The main target of these raids, which were the first to bring the terrors of aerial warfare to the people of the Midlands, was Liverpool. But none of the nine giant airships actually reached Merseyside that frosty, foggy night, and jettisoned their deadly cargo on the industrial towns of the Midlands.

The results, according to the author, led to considerable political pressure for more adequate air raid precautions, and considerable anti-German propaganda. Today, it might be called "collateral damage", but the coroner at Burton had to warn jurors not to return verdicts of "wilful murder" by the German Kaiser and Crown Prince because then he would have to issue a warrant to commit them to Stafford Assizes for trial.

But the raids did eventually lead to the development of a more successful air raid defence policy, particularly the use of night fighters to bring the Zeppelins down.

50 Finds from Staffordshire



Teresa Gilmore

Amberley Publishing, £14.99 pb

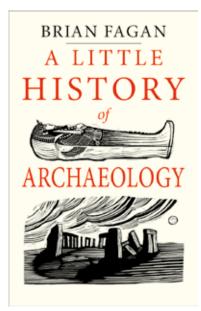
Written by the Finds Liaison Officer for Staffordshire, the subject of the latest in Amberley's 50 county finds series covers our neighbouring county. Several of the finds

recorded under the PAS in Staffordshire have been featured in ACID.

They include the recent Leekfrith find of three neck torcs and a bracelet in 2016 (See ACID 2018), which the author claims has changed our understanding of Iron Age activity in Britain; the famous Staffordshire hoard of 7th century gold and silver metalwork from 2009; and the little-known Staffordshire Moorlands pan, dated AD 100-199, which was found in 2003.

This Roman-style pan, or patera, has the names of four of the forts at the Cumbrian end of Hadrian's Wall inscribed around its rim, and is one of only two other vessels which have been found to feature the names of forts on the Wall. It is thought it may have been a souvenir commemorating a soldier's time spent serving on the Wall.

A Little History of Archaeology



Brian Fagan

Yale University Press, £25 hb

Michael Wood (see ACID 2014) has described this latest in Yale's Little Histories by Brian Fagan, Emeritus Professor of Anthropology at the University of California, as "a master at the top of his game." And, as a succinct, pocket-sized history of archaeology around the globe, drawn from a lifetime of digging and research, it could hardly be bettered.

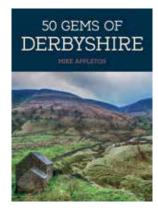
Fagan's history of what an earlier

scholar called "backward-looking curiosity" is filled with the most important and exciting events in this relatively-recent, although 250-year-old science. They range from the classic, Indiana Jones-type stories of Howard Carter and Lord Carnarvon's celebrated finding and opening of Tutankhamun's tomb in 1922, to ex-University of Sheffield Professor Mike Parker Pearson's redefining of the landscape of Stonehenge in Wiltshire (see ACID 2010).

The magic of archaeology is summed up in the author's final words of advice: "I remember standing on the ramparts of a 2,000-year-old hillfort in England one cloudy day. I closed my eyes and imagined the battle below in AD43 between a Roman legion and the local inhabitants – the shouts of the attackers, the clash of sword on shield, the screams of the wounded... For a moment, I was a spectator. Then the vision faded and I shivered in the grey chill.

"The past is all around us for all to experience and enjoy – not only archaeologists. So when you next visit an archaeological site, let your imagination run wild."

50 Gems of Derbyshire



Mike Appleton

Amberley Publishing, £14.99 pb

This attractively-presented tour around "the history and heritage of the most iconic places" in Derbyshire is a highly idiosyncratic and personal look at some of the author's favourite places.

But it turns out that three of the chosen "gems of Derbyshire" (Lud's Church, The Roaches and Thor's Cave) are not in Derbyshire at all, but actually in the neighbouring county of Staffordshire.

And while many of the classic historical sites – Chatsworth, Haddon, Tissington Hall, Peveril Castle and Mam Tor – all get well-deserved mentions, many others, such as Arbor Low, Stanton Moor's Nine Ladies, Bolsover Castle, and Sudbury, Kedleston and Hardwick Halls, all fail to qualify. Several of the descriptions of the "gems" covered appear to be verbatim quotations from the respective guides the author had. Poor editing/proof-reading has allowed some real howlers to get through, such as Mam Tor summit being "easily assessable"; Buxton being "relatively easy to find (!), being off the A6 and A515 (Buxton Road)", and Camp Green at Hathersage is described as a "Norman"

ringwork castle dating from the late 11th or early 12th

century, yet the author states it is thought to have been

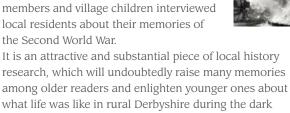
Calver, Curbar, Froggatt in the Second World War

Calver, Curbar and Froggatt Local History Group

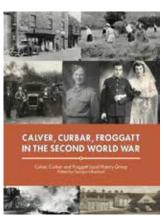
Calver, Curbar and Froggatt Local History Group, Free pb

This Heritage Lottery-funded free 96-page booklet is the result of a two-year survey conducted by the Calver, Curbar and Froggatt Local History Group, in which members and village children interviewed local residents about their memories of the Second World War.

days of the last World War.



Among the fascinating stories told at first-hand are the evacuation of the staff and 270 children from Sheffield High School at Broomhill to the newly-vacated Cliff College at Calver between 1939 and 1944; the general acceptance by villagers of Italian prisoners of war from their camp, now the Meadow Close housing estate, at nearby Stoney Middleton, and the decoy "fake city" which was constructed on the moors near Curbar Gap to deceive enemy bombers that it was Sheffield. Although all contributors are named, we are not always told which of the three Derwent-side villages they are from in the quotations, which is a pity.



Wonders of the Peak: Then and Now

Roly Smith

Byway Publications, £7.99pb

built during the Danish occupation.

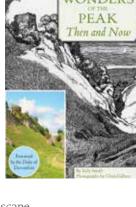
Echoing the Seven Ancient Wonders of the World and commencing with a review of Thomas Hobbes's 1636 description of Seven Wonders of the Peak, the author goes on to select seven each of natural, man-made and wildlife wonders which can be experienced in the Peak today.

He admits these are all personal choices and invites the reader to consider their own selection. Concluding with a thoughtful assessment of the work of the National Park Authority since its creation in 1951, he poses the question: what will be the wonders of the future? This book is a delightful 96-page glimpse into much of what makes the Peak distinctive and endlessly fascinating. The author (editor of ACID) is clearly steeped in knowledge and experience of its scenery, history and wildlife and a passionate advocate. For

instance, when describing Arbor Low, "the most famous and impressive prehistoric site in the Peak ... sometimes dubbed 'the Stonehenge of the North.' But for atmosphere and the feeling of closeness with the past it far outshines its over-interpreted and overcrowded counterpart on Salisbury Plain." The text also incorporates many personal experiences, for example, one of his seven wildlife wonders, the return of the water vole, is introduced with reference to: "Thirty-odd years ago when my children were young, we would enjoy hearing along the banks of the River Wye in Bakewell that distinctive

'plop' as a water vole plunged into the river to escape detection." Roly has spent a lifetime living and working in the Peak. A former Head of Information Services with the Peak District National Park, he is the author of over 90 books on the British countryside.

The Duke of Devonshire contributed the foreword, and the readable text is beautifully illustrated with numerous coloured photographs by Chris Gilbert and reproductions of 19th century engravings.



Pauline Beswick

Our year in numbers

Derbyshire County Council

502 Scheduled Monuments c21,000

Historic Monument Records

World Heritage Site

Registered Parks and Gardens



Conservation Areas

Listed Buildings

Peak District National Park

472

Scheduled Monuments

637,000

Historic Monument Records Registered Parks and Gardens



2,900 Listed Buildings

Our Activities

Planning Consultations and Advice

Conservation Advice Historic Environment Record Enhancement Countryside Stewardship Consultations and Advice

Support for Community Projects

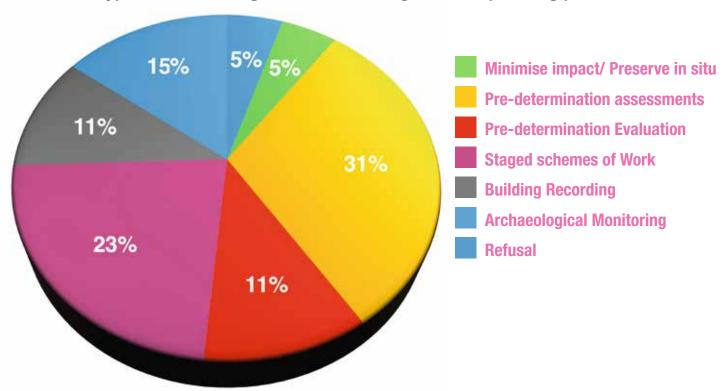
Support for Research Projects

Archaeological Advice on Planning and Development in Derbyshire and the Peak District National Park

8720

631

Types of archaeological work resulting from the planning process



Heritage counts!

Heritage is an important source of employment and draws millions of visitors each year. In 2017, the economic impact of the heritage sector in the East Midlands region was calculated as follows:-

Direct, indirect and induced GVA (gross valued added) £1.7 billion

Direct, indirect and induced heritage employment 34,000 jobs

