

# BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY MUSEUM

## ANNUAL REPORT 2015/16

2015/16 was a year of steady achievement for the new Museum Trust, bedding in new administrative systems and ending the financial year with a revenue account surplus of £31,250 carried forward (down £6,624) and an additional £39,000 carried forward as a restricted purchase fund.

This report reviews the period April 2015 until April 2016. The anti-climax of the year was the preparation of detailed proposals, first for a new cultural centre behind the Old County Offices (which became mired in a County Council feasibility exercise from which it was not to emerge – mortally wounded – until summer 2016), and then in fabulous proposals for museum extension submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund in April 2016 and knocked back for further work in July. The Trustees remain positively committed to pursuing the latter but not the former.

More positively attendance numbers during the year recovered to 89,163 from 85,200 in the previous year with major advances in schools education (particularly in January and February 2016). Dahl gallery paid admissions income was up but shop and café trading dropped further after a poor previous year, despite measures such as the new website and curiosity café initiative mentioned last year. A price rise for the Dahl Gallery was budgeted for the new financial year. After year end, investment in a new look for the café was implemented and the shop trading and stock systems proposed by our ACE-funded advisers offer good prospects for 2016/17.

There was the usual mixture of exhibitions including:

Creative Connections closed 9 May 2015  
Bucks Open Studios Fanfare opened 23 May, closed 4 July 2015  
Nature Detectives opened 25 July, closed 31 Oct 2015  
Off the Wall Art Fair opened 14 Nov, closed 12 Dec 2015  
Photography! Opened 16 Jan, closed 5 Mar 2016  
Art of Islam opened 26 March 2016

Lutes, Lyres and Ukeleles opened 25 April, closed 22 August 2015

Nature in Art, Muir Trust Residency opened 5 Sep, closed 3 Oct 2015

WI, 100th anniversary opened 10 Oct 2015, closed 20 Feb 2016

Little Pieces of Heaven opened 13 Feb 2016

Historic Views of Bucks opened 27 Feb 2016.

Analysis of visit numbers shows that 4655 visitors saw our main show, Nature Detectives, during the summer – a splendid average of 85 visitors per day against just 26 for our charging show on Friars music club a year previously.

During the review year Schools bookings recovered, with large increases in the spring term of 2016, slowing only after year end and recovering all of the numbers lost in 2013/14, when recruitment of learning assistants was frozen. School numbers recovered to 14300 (up from 13,200). The Museums experiment with the Aylesbury Ducklings sessions could not achieve the income levels required under full cost accounting and sadly was suspended at Easter 2016 for the foreseeable future. Support from the Aylesbury NADFAS branch was repeated once more and the Enchanted Forest was again displayed as a holiday draw during the Big Draw activity during October. Our thanks go to all of them and to our hard-working Learning Team which has done so much to make them successful.

We have been much exercised about the prospect of collections transfer to Milton Keynes due in April 2017 which implies complete cessation of £50k of fees from MK under their SLA with us. We are discussing a follow-on with MK Museum which will inherit the budget, but their own plans will take many if not all collections in and leaves us vulnerable to at least a 60% cut. Happily, due to delays the SLA will continue to April 2018 leaving us more time to resolve problems and negotiate solutions. In the meantime we have inherited a project from MK Museum Trust leading a collaboration on visitor engagement (‘Reaching New Horizons’) and delivering both in MK and locally

for our own volunteer supporters. First results have been the successful submission of an application for Investing in Volunteering status made in May 2016.

Acquisitions funded by Friends include the ceramic sculpture by Lorraine Izon, The Green Man decorative plate designed by John Piper, and a post-medieval silver verrel from Princes Risborough. Friends and patrons both generously supported the architectural feasibility study for the museum extension proposal and total grants from the Friends and patrons amounted to £18500. The full list of donations from both organisations is contained in the Museum Annual report. We would like to reiterate how uniquely lucky we feel to have in-house top-up money for these important projects when revenue budgets are stretched.

Beyond the museum walls the Trustees are committed to reflecting the obligations of the County Council Service level agreement and extending outreach. Special arrangements for groups have included tours of studio ceramics for City & Guilds students, the Craft Potters Association and many individuals. Group tours behind the scenes at Halton were held for Long Crendon WI, Chilterns U3A, F&P. Museum-based events included encounters with live animals including Meet a Bat and Meet an Owl sessions as part of the Nature Detectives exhibition, as well as the return of the popular Mushroom Magic event with the Bucks Fungus Group.

Across the County Keeper staff have delivered art talks in Milton Keynes, Aston Clinton, Beaconsfield and West Wycombe. A university lecture series of talks by five external speakers was also held through the winter months.

In addition to talks there have been numerous loans and special exhibitions including the long-term loan of coats of arms and heraldic shields to Wotton House to decorate Sir John Soane's reinstated tribune and the loan of Underpass by Boyd & Evans to Milton Keynes Central Library.

The total number of records of Buckinghamshire objects entered on the Portable Antiquities scheme database from April 2015 to April 2016 was 1511. This includes 41 prehistoric finds, 577 Roman finds, 33 early medieval finds, and 420 medieval finds. In April our long-standing Finds Liaison Officer retired from her post after 13 years recording for the scheme. During this time she recorded over 24000 objects. A new appointment

was made in May, and the appointee continues to have some voluntary help from her predecessor.

The new Finds Liaison Officer is currently organising finds identification and recording sessions which will commence in September 2016, and will be held at Wycombe Museum, Old Gaol Museum and Milton Keynes Museum every three months, and at Buckinghamshire County Museum once a month. This will allow finders to record their finds through the scheme, and to report treasure. By recording finds onto the Portable Antiquities Scheme database it allows researchers to use the information gathered to find out more about Buckinghamshire's past. The database can be viewed at [www.finds.org.uk](http://www.finds.org.uk)

## ACCESSIONS

### 1. Art

**2015.56.1** Scene in Market Square, Aylesbury by WG Masters, watercolour, 1857

**2015.56.2** Horse Fair, Market Square, Aylesbury by WG Masters, watercolour, 1857

**2015.88.1** Print of views of Cuddington, signed 'WW', probably 1930s/40s

**2015.88.2** Print of views of Old Aylesbury, signed 'WW', probably 1930s/40s

**2015.88.3** Print of Ye Old King's Head, signed 'WW', etching, probably 1930s/40s

**2015.126.1** Evening Time, Ellesborough Church by Susan M Atkinson, watercolour, not dated

**2015.127.1** Ye Old Dark Lantern by William Jack Kape, watercolour, not dated

**2015.141.1** Ceramic sculpture of long-eared owl by Lorraine Izon, Muir Trust Artist in Residence, 2015

**2016.1.1-10** Photographic studio portrait of Nancy Tonge Harris of Longmoor Farm, Aston Abbots. 1890s. Eight family photographs and collection of newspaper cuttings about the family.

**2016.2.1** The Green Man, decorative plate by Wedgewood to a design by John Piper, after 1989

### Social History

**2015.76** Drop-action typewriter desk parts, designed and patented by local man from Bledlow-cum-Saunderton, mid-20th century

**2015.99** Air Raid Precautions notice (framed) from Walton Way, Aylesbury, 1940s

**2015.103** Dress made by donor from Liberty & Co fabric, late 1980s

**2015.114-115** Film props, storyboard and cinema ticket relating to locally-made, crowd-funded zombie film 'Aylesbury Dead'

**2015.145** Copper electric kettle from Aylesbury Corporation Electricity Department, 1920s

**2015.146-147** Two Harris tweed men's jackets sold by Spragg & Son tailors of Aylesbury, c1930s

**2015.148** Toshiba personal computer used by donor in Aylesbury, 1980s

**2015.177-179** Tickets and commemorative programme relating to 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games

**2016.33-41** Collection of clothes relating to family from Beaconsfield area, 19th and 20th century

### **Archaeology**

**2015.180.1** Bronze Age gold finger ingot from the Winslow area, acquired with grants from the V&A PGF, The Headley Trust, and the Friends of the Museum

### **Excavation Archives**

Over 2015–16, the museum has been notified of the intent to deposit 93 excavation archives by commercial archaeological contracting units

*Collection Team  
Buckinghamshire County Museum*

# CENTRE FOR BUCKINGHAMSHIRE STUDIES

ANNUAL REPORT 2015–2016

In May 2015, Roger Bettridge retired as County Archivist, after almost thirty years of working for Buckinghamshire County Council. Roger started work for the Council in November 1985 as Senior Assistant Archivist and was promoted to become the fourth County Archivist in 1997 on the retirement of Hugh Hanley. Amongst the staff and regular users of the Archives, Roger will be particularly missed for his Latin and palaeographical skills, and his wide-ranging historical knowledge.

Following Roger's retirement, the archives and local studies team underwent a restructure to take into account the loss of the Archives and Local Studies Manger (Senior Archivist) post, after Laura Cotton was promoted to replace Roger. The team now has five different areas of specialism: Collections, Collections Care and Conservation, Digital Collections, Public Services and Community Outreach and Projects. This change, along with a reduction in opening hours (we are now closed on Fridays), allows us to concentrate on achieving many of the back-office tasks that we were struggling to complete before, such as cataloguing and digitisation.

## ONLINE CATALOGUE

In January 2016, after a great deal of work in the background, we finally launched our online catalogue. This enables anybody to search for fully catalogued records that have been added to our computerised database. Anything catalogued since 2000 is included on this, as well as a number of longer-held collections which have been computerised through the Access to Archives (A2A) process or work that we have done ourselves in-house. So, included are our parish collections, a large amount of landed estate catalogues and the majority of our maps, amongst other things. You won't find some of the older estate collections or things that have never been fully catalogued. Not all of the district and county council collections are available yet, nor are collections which are being

worked on, such as Milton Keynes Development Corporation (although that is due to be added in 2017) or newly received accessions. You can search the catalogue by following links from the CBS website or at <http://archives.buckscc.gov.uk>.

## WORLD WAR ONE

Following our successful application to the Heritage Lottery Fund, the 'Great War Buckinghamshire' project started in March 2016. The project is working to gather biographies of people who were in some way affected by the First World War and have a connection to Buckinghamshire. This includes servicemen who were involved with one of the Buckinghamshire regiments, men from Buckinghamshire who served for any service during the war, and women and children (including Land Army girls and VAD nurses, etc.). Alongside gathering this information, we are holding a series of events over the life of the project, which will run until 2018. Part of those events will be showing an exhibition of some of the stories that we uncover and general information about WW1. We will also have a website that will host all of the biographies gathered and encourage people to share their own family stories, as well as allow free access to some of the contemporary documentation that we hold in the collections, such as the Absent Voters' List and the Bucks Battalion Casualty books and order books, etc.

## OUTREACH

The office has been involved with a Beaconsfield and District Historical Society project to catalogue and rehouse their collection of local history material and ephemera since January 2015. This was only possible due to a Heritage Lottery Fund grant that the Society successfully applied for, which has enabled them to bring us in to help. The project continued throughout 2015–16 and will come to a conclusion in 2017.

Another project with which CBS has been

involved has been the establishment of the National Paralympic Heritage Trust. The Trust aims to celebrate the heritage of Stoke Mandeville as the birthplace of the Paralympic movement and very much takes our own Mandeville Legacy project (which ran 2008–2013) as its inspiration. The Trust has been working towards a large-scale Heritage Lottery Fund application to allow it to establish national exhibitions of the story of Stoke Mandeville and the development of the Paralympic Games in the UK. CBS have been working alongside the Trust to help develop the bid as the office will be the archive repository for the Trust, storing collections and promoting access in our usual ways. To this end, we have already started receiving relevant collections (see Accessions below).

The office has continued to receive visits from schools, and to attend events around the county to promote our service, such as the Buckinghamshire Family History Society Fair and the Buckinghamshire Local History Network Conference. These kinds of event are an important part of our outreach, as they enable us to reach a large number of people quickly, including some who might not know who we are and what we do. We have also received visits from the Buckinghamshire Gardens Trust and Amersham Museum, who have come to see various collections or aspects of our work.

## ACCESSIONS

The Centre accessioned 117 collections during 2015. The selected highlights of these new deposits are as follows:

- Deeds and abstracts of title (reciting deeds from 1882) relating to freehold land in Chalfont St Peter (later occupied by 4 Bramble Close)
- Records of the International Wheelchair and Amputee Sports Federation, including minutes of the Council/Executive Committee 1960–2013; programmes/results/ephemera for Stoke Mandeville Games/IWAS World Games/IWAS Junior Games 1950s–2015; collection of paperwork and ephemera gathered by Joan Scruton (Secretary General) 1950s–1990s; booklets, programmes and results relating to Paralympic Games, Rome 1960–Sochi 2014; general correspondence 1960s–2015; collection of paperwork and ephemera relating to the International Paralympic Committee (and its predecessor, International Co-ordinating Committee) 1980s–2015, including General Assembly records; athlete classification cards 1960s–2000s; photographs 1950s–2000s; ‘The Cord: the Journal for Paraplegics’ 1947–1982 (closed 1983)
- Report to Wycombe District Council on objections made to the High Wycombe Area Local Plan, 1989
- Papers relating to the Wolverton and Stony Stratford Tramway, including CD of photographs
- Settlement of Chapmans Farm in Newport Pagnell for the benefit of Joseph Davis and his wife Ann Davis (nee Arnoll) to be held in trust by Thomas Thornton and Henry Blaxland
- Research notes, transcripts, plans and records relating to the history of Ibstone, arranged by subjects with some original records, including a service register for Ibstone Church, 1915–1971, and deeds relating to public houses, 19th–20th cent
- Scrapbook and photographs relating to the 1969 Stoke Mandeville Games and the attendance of Kenyan teenager Simon Ndugi, also programme for opening of Stoke Mandeville Stadium by HM The Queen in 1969
- Floor plans and elevations (with measurements) and photographs showing Whaddon House, produced by a firm of architects
- Historic Building Records produced by John Moore Heritage Services: Building Assessment on 43 Whielden Street, Amersham, with photographs in strips and on cd, May 2014; Historic Building Record for Sharps Hill Farm, Bicester Road, Kingswood, with cd of photographs, 2015
- Records of Broom and Wade Limited (later CompAir), engineering manufacturers (including steam engines and air compressors), including reports and accounts, 1949–1985, news Bulletins, 1938–1987, with some other internal bulletins, and email communications from Managing Director, 2003–2004
- Correspondence and papers concerning campaign for a 20mph speed limit in Aylesbury Town Centre, 2008–2009, with newspaper cuttings, 2009 and 2015
- Rolls of plans (several in each) of public houses in Buckinghamshire, comprising: The Hit or Miss, Amersham, 1933–1969 (floor plans and

- elevations), The Fox, Ibstone, 1949–1979 (floor plans, elevations, alterations and drainage), The Jolly Blacksmith, Lane End, 1961–1965 (floor plans), The Kings Arms, Skirmett, 1932–1980 (floor plans and elevations), The Harrow, Studley Green, 1934–1974 (floor plans, elevations and location plans), The Five Arrows, Waddesdon, 1934–1982 (floor plans, elevations and interior details) and The Chequers, Wheeler End, 1937–1967 (floor plans, elevations and drainage)
- Records of the National Spinal Injuries Centre at Stoke Mandeville Hospital, including medical files of deceased patients treated since the Unit was established in 1944, with some X-rays
  - Photographs showing locations in Buckinghamshire, including Aylesbury, Hartwell House, Quarrendon, with three family groups (possibly at Hartwell House): many are stamped Mr and Mrs Payne, Art Photographers, Aylesbury
  - Minutes, correspondence and papers of the Trustees of Old Jordans Hostel (which ran Old Jordans Guest House and Conference Centre) until sale of the property and winding up of the Trust
  - Additional records of the Steevens family, including business papers, wills, deeds, diaries and correspondence, also including items relating to Methodism in Wycombe and area, with cd containing detailed lists and transcripts
  - Records relating to Bowstridge Farm in Chalfont St Giles, C18-C19
  - Plans of Franklin, Deacon and Briars, comprising: proposed layout of roads, sewers and houses on Buckingham Road Estate, Aylesbury, nd, house at Stockgrove, Aylesbury, nd, houses on The Wendover Road Estate in Aylesbury, 1950s, and proposed extension to Wendover Way on Turnfurlong Estate, Aylesbury, nd; Prince of Wales, Brook Street, Edlesborough, 1948; building land on streets including Mentmore Road, Wing Road and The Gables, in Linslade, 1931; proposed land development in Princes Risborough, near land of Bucks Education Committee, nd; alterations to the Manor House, Swanbourne, Aug 1924
  - Conveyance by Thomas Babyngton of Dedwick [Dethick], Derbyshire, esquire, patron of the parish of Milton Keynes, to Richard Woodwall and John Nurse, yeomen of Middelton Keynes [Milton Keynes], of the advowson of the parish church, 28 September 2 [name of monarch illegible, but appears to be Henry VIII, 1510]; Transfer of land by Thomas Thorpp', William Thorpp' and Robert Thorpp', sons of Nicholas Thorpp' of Morton (or Mortan) in the county of Nor', to their brother Richard Thorpp', of one messuage in Morton, 3 June 1513 [5 Henry VIII]; Notes relating to the deeds
  - Papers of Mr A. Hartridge, historic buildings inspector for English Heritage, relating to building work at the churches of St Andrew in Great Linford, 1985–1987, St Edmund in Maids Moreton, 1995–1996, and Holy Trinity in Old Wolverton, 1997–1998, including correspondence, specifications and photographs
  - Deeds relating to the manor and land at Bradwell, 1742–1838, deeds relating to land in Bow Brickhill, 1695–1903 (marked Green and others, water supply, with one item relating to Stanbridge in Bedfordshire, 1937)
  - Papers relating to alterations made to 49 High Street, Amersham, now Amersham Society Museum, comprising report on excavation, architects report and four plans
  - Final report (with photographs) on archaeological watching brief on All Saints Church, High Wycombe, by John Moore Heritage Services for the Parochial Church Council
  - Commonplace book belonging to Mary George, wife of Charles Bennett of New Inn, Stowe, containing photographs of places visited, notes and embroidered bookmark (date on title page 1833)

*Laura Cotton  
County and Diocesan Archivist*

# COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGY SERVICE

## REPORT FOR 2016

Personnel changes within the Buckinghamshire County Archaeology Service have been limited to Sarah-Jane Farr moving onto work with HS2 where she is enjoying her new role. Eliza Alqassar continues to work with us for part of the week when not out and about with Historic England as an Assistant Inspector of Ancient Monuments, covering the south-east. Paul Clements' contract has been extended to the end of the 2016/17 financial year and he continues to be a great asset to the team. Julia Wise continues in her role as the HER Officer providing customers with her extensive knowledge of the County.

### DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT

The service was consulted on 526 proposals during 2016 (to early November) and 74 development related fieldwork projects have been undertaken. Highlights include:

Woodlands, Aston Clinton – Archaeological evaluation in the form of a geophysical survey and trial trenching by MoLA have taken place for this proposed large-scale mixed use development. The geophysical survey identified evidence relating to at least six different archaeological sites of probable Iron Age to Roman date. These included rectilinear enclosures, possible trackways and medieval ridge and furrow. The trial trenches recorded at least three significant Roman settlement sites within the development area, including one high-status site producing imported pottery, bone and building remains (roof tiles, tesserae, patches of mortared stone) all overlain by a demolition layer. When the report is supplied we will be better able to assess how significant these Roman settlement sites are.

Eaton Leys, Milton Keynes – Archaeological evaluation in the form of a geophysical survey and limited trial trenching has been undertaken by MoLA for this proposed large scale residential development, which is within the Aylesbury Vale District Council and Milton Keynes Council areas. The geophysical survey recorded potential settlement and a trackway south of the Scheduled

Roman town of Magiovinium, mostly within the Milton Keynes authority area. On the southern boundary of the site further potential settlement was recorded and the trial trenching has recorded a large amount of Roman pottery and tile. This area is outside of the construction area and is likely to be preserved in situ. Surprisingly the trial trenching south of the Roman town revealed very little finds or features and the current hypothesis is that ploughing has reduced the archaeology to residual remains within the topsoil which can be recorded by geophysics but are not of any depth to excavate.

Stone – excavation of a medieval 'industrial estate' dating from the 11th-12th centuries took place earlier in the summer by Archaeological Solutions. A successful open day was held and pupils from Stone School attended and tried their hands at digging for finds.

Weston Turville – a Roman trackway and associated field system has been excavated by MoLA. The trackway appeared to link up with the Roman road Akeman Street, building up our knowledge and understanding of the Roman road network around Aylesbury. The discovery of a small area of settlement alongside the road with an abundance of Roman drinking vessels suggests this may have been the site of a small roadside tavern.

### High Speed 2

We continue to advise HS2 Ltd through the Heritage Sub-Group on draft documents and revisions, and these documents now resemble standard practice through the Planning system and the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB).

The County has been in discussion with HS2 Ltd over a service level agreement covering the County and the Districts. Currently HS2 Ltd is proposing to fund an additional day's work per week. The Environment Team currently has a service level agreement with HS2 Ltd for the provision of information, both data and spatial, and this will probably be included in the more overarching service level agreement.

Geophysics has been undertaken when HS2 Ltd has gained access. There are some interesting results from around Fleet Marston Roman town. If/when the HS2 Bill is passed it is expected that significant archaeological works will begin March/April 2017 and will continue for a number of years. It is expected that this will lead to a shortage of available archaeological field teams for normal planning and DMRB schemes.

We will be invited to monitor the work but comments will currently go to HS2 Ltd and not the field team. HS2 say that most of the recording will be digital and available on-line quickly to inform other investigations along the route and interested individuals.

### **Historic Environment Record**

In September 2015 we reported on possible challenges to the current HER charging policy and data supply provisions following the EU Court of Justice ruling on Environmental Information Regulation charges. This is now being dealt with at a national level by ALGAO UK.

Paul has loaded LiDAR data from the Environment Agency and HS2 Ltd into the HER's GIS mapping and we are now using the data to inform our planning and management advice. Paul is also geo-rectifying contractors' geophysical survey

plots and loading them into GIS mapping.

Progress is still being made by one of the HER volunteers on the milestones project. The other regular volunteer has returned, and having brought us up to date with entering local note buildings for recent Conservation Area appraisals, is currently inputting new records for the turnpike roads in Buckinghamshire.

The Buckinghamshire Gardens Trust Research and Recording Project is continuing to make good progress with 31 reports completed, 6 reports in draft and work underway on a further 9 gardens. The Gardens Trust volunteers are again helping our team and District planners with casework by researching the gardens at Alderbourne Manor in South Bucks.

### **Future**

Budget pressures continue but we retain the support from senior management and elected members and trust the service will continue in the years to come.

*Phil Markham  
Senior Archaeology Officer  
Environment Team  
Transport, Economy, Environment  
Buckinghamshire County Council*



# CONSERVATION & ARCHAEOLOGY IN MILTON KEYNES 2015

## DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT

The Conservation & Archaeology Team received 1049 planning consultations during 2015, 420 of which were for the Senior Archaeological Officer. The team were also consulted on a number of draft Neighbourhood Plans including those for Castlethorpe, Newport Pagnell and Sherington in addition to the emerging Plan:MK.

## FIELDWORK

Twenty two development-related fieldwork projects were undertaken in Milton Keynes borough in 2015:

Highlights included:

- The discovery of a second Romano-British mausoleum by MOLA Northampton during excavations at Passenham Quarry, Calverton.
- Excavation of an early Saxon settlement by Albion Archaeology at Kickles Farm, Newport Pagnell.
- The mapping and excavation of a further Neolithic cursus monument with associated round barrow at Haversham Road Quarry, Wolverton by Cambridge Archaeological Unit.

## BUILDING CONSERVATION

In April, Milton Keynes Central Library was listed at Grade II, joining a growing number of designated early examples of MKDC architecture. Other New Town buildings considered for listing in 2015 included the Mies Van Der Rohe inspired CMK office blocks Norfolk and Ashton House, which were not considered sufficiently significant to be added to the national list.

Both Willen and Old Woughton Parish Councils have produced draft Conservation Area reviews for consideration. It is hoped that these documents

and any agreed boundary changes may be adopted in 2016.

## HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD

A Historic England sponsored revisit of the 2011 HER Audit was begun by the Senior Archaeological Officer in August.

## OUTREACH

In September the Senior Archaeological Officer led a third well-attended 'Heritage Hike' in the Ouzel valley as part of the Heritage Open Days season. Talks on recent archaeological discoveries in Milton Keynes were also given to Loughton & Great Holm Parish Council and Castlethorpe Heritage Group.

The 9th annual Milton Keynes Archaeology Day on Saturday 9th November was another successful and well-attended event attracting 600 people of all ages from Milton Keynes and beyond to enjoy the various talks, displays and activities on offer. Particularly popular was the 'Hands-on Archaeology workshop' for young people organised by locally-based firm Cotswold Archaeology, which had upwards of 40 participants. The talks in the Events Space attracted a total of 110 people over the day and gave insights into Marine Archaeology, Medieval Mosaics and the amazingly well-preserved 3000 year old fenland settlement of Must Farm. Many more stopped by at the displays of recent finds by local societies and metal detectorists in the foyer. Next year's 10th anniversary event is already being programmed and will be held on Saturday 12th November.

*Nick Crank, Senior Archaeological Officer  
Conservation & Archaeology Team,  
Spatial Planning,  
Milton Keynes Council*

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