

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY MUSEUM TRUST

JANUARY – DECEMBER 2018

2018 has been an exciting year of growth and development for the Museum Trust with some very high-profile shows attracting national attention such as the Frink Exhibition, which were featured in the ‘i’ newspaper, *The Lady* and many regional life magazines. The 100 Hearts created by the Embroiderers’ Guild members for the *Legacy of WW1* exhibition also featured on ‘BBC South Today’ in November, close to Armistice Day. *LEGO Civilisations* in the summer brought in over 6000 people to see the life-size LEGO figures representing past and present cultures all over the world. The Trust was able to display many items from the collections with each figure, to connect the objects to the periods and countries represented by the LEGO figures.

New events have featured on the Museum calendar including *Gin and Jazz* in the Museum gardens which attracted over 300 people who had not visited the Museum before and the very popular Tunnel tours which were attended by over 200 people in May and again in October for Halloween. The Anglo-Saxon group ‘Wulfheodenas’ visited at Easter with over 1000 people coming to learn about the elite Anglo-Saxon warriors. The story of Beowulf was experienced by lots of families in the form of a unique puppet show with medieval music as an accompaniment.

EXHIBITIONS

Art Gallery:

10 February – 21 April

Elisabeth Frink, Sculpture, Drawings and Prints

5 May – 30 June

Paul Kidby: Discworld & Beyond – the Art of Terry Pratchett

25 July – 5 September

Civilisations: an interactive LEGO brick adventure around the world

22 September – 8 December

Silversmith – Beautiful silver from the Hart Silversmiths of Chipping Campden in the Cotswolds and the museum’s collections

15 December 2018 – 19 January 2019

Christmas Toy Box – nostalgic displays of community loaned traditional toys and games

Special Exhibitions Gallery:

December 2018 – February 2018

Ex Libris – recycled book art

3 March – 23 June

Curators Choice – treasures from the Museum stores chosen by the curators

30 June – 29 Sept

Wonder Dogs: dogs that help humans – stories from local charities working with dogs

20 October 2018 – 12 January 2019

100 HEARTS: Legacy of War – Embroiderers’ Guild stitched hearts to commemorate the end of WW1

EVENTS

Easter Holidays:

1 & 2 April: *Meet the Saxon Warriors –*

Wulfheodenas Saxon re-enactment group

4 & 12 April: *The LEGO Movie – family indoor cinema screenings & play area*

5 & 11 April: *Fantastic Mr Fox – family indoor cinema screenings & play area*

21 April: *Shakespeare at the Museum – ‘Twelfth Night’, performed in the Museum garden by Unbound from the Queens Park Arts Centre, Aylesbury*

26, 29 & 30 May: *Tunnel Tours*

28 May: *Join the Roman Army* – resident Roman soldier leading Roman military drill for visitors

30 & 31 May: *The Story of Beowulf* – medieval family puppet shows

30 June: *Whizzfizzing Festival* – Peter Pan tea party

22 July: *Community Archaeology Day*, at Halton Resource Centre

5 August: *Gin & Jazz* – with Aylesbury Town Centre Partnership and Shoot Pool.

‘Meet the Wonder Dog’ sessions:

9 August: *Meet a Medical Detection Dog*

16 August: *Meet a Guide Dog*

23 August: *Meet a Dogs for Good Assistance Dog*

30 August: *Meet a Hearing Dog*

27 August: *Join the Roman Army*

8 September: *Heritage Open Day: Meet the Archaeologist* – Brett Thorn, Keeper of Archaeology. Object-handling sessions, ranging from Palaeolithic stone tools created by the first humans in Britain to a 3,000 year-old Bronze Age sword, Celtic gold coins and medieval jugs made not far from Aylesbury.

9 September: *Tudor Fayre* (Aylesbury Town Council)

15 September: *The Princess Bride* – outdoor cinema

6 October: *Mushroom Magic*

27 October: *Festival of Light*

17 November: *Bucks Museum Pride*

15 December: *Twelve Days of Christmas* – science show

KEY LECTURES

21 March: *Elisabeth Frink Lecture*, by Jo Baring, Ingram Collection

4 October: *Harts Silversmithing*, by David and Trish Hart

8 November: *Fighting on Different Fronts – Representations of Women in the First World War*, by Peter Vass from Oxford Brookes University

ACQUISITIONS

Archaeological Depositions

The Museum has been notified of 90 new site archives this year, although as we are no longer accepting negative site archives (where the investigation discovers no archaeological finds or features), the final number that are actually deposited may be significantly lower.

As individual finds, two significant early medieval groups have been added to the collection, to complement the acquisition and future display of the large hoard of late Saxon silver pennies found in 2014 at Lenborough.

One find, in two fragments, is a gilded copper-alloy great square-headed brooch, dated AD450-550, from Nether Winchendon (Fig. 1). Found by two different metal detectorists, and reported to the national Portable Antiquities Scheme, the county Finds Liaison Officer recognised that they were part of the same object, and the museum has managed to acquire both pieces. The brooch is still incomplete, and it is possible that the missing third fragment is still waiting to be found. The brooch is classified as Hines type XII, and has been acquired as AYBCM:2018.151. Purchased with a grant from the Friends of the Museum.

The other significant Early Medieval group is an unusual acquisition for the museum because it comes from just over the county boundary, near Bisham in Berks. Another metal detector find, in this case there was no other local museum willing to acquire, so we have acted as a museum of last resort in order to further strengthen our Early Medieval collection. The find is a grave group, although the body was left undisturbed, but as the vessels had been exposed and had previously suffered plough damage, they needed to be excavated. This was carried out by archaeologists from the Portable Antiquities Scheme. The finds consist of two bronze vessels – a cauldron and a bowl, both very fine, and imported, and a pair of iron spearheads. The group has been provisionally dated as early 6th century. The finds were kindly



FIGURE 1 Front and rear views of the Early Medieval brooch from Nether Winchendon, AYBCM:2018.151

donated by finder and landowner, but needed extensive conservation, which was enabled by a grant from the Mick Aston Fund. Acquired as AYBCM:2018.150.

Social History

AYBCM:2018.11.1 – Large brass plaque commemorating planting of trees to mark fundraising in Bucks for Red Cross during World War 2

AYBCM:2018.15.1 – SRN [State Registered Nurse]

badge worn by local nurse at Stoke Mandeville Hospital in 1950s

AYBCM:2018.15.2 – Sterilising drum used on wards at Stoke Mandeville Hospital prior to introduction of central sterilisation department in 1960s

AYBCM:2018.22.1 – Child's embroidered dress made in Chesham

AYBCM:2018.23.1-2 – Boy's smocked outfit made in Chesham

- AYBCM:2018.24.1 – Shawl/blanket bought in Liberty shop in Chesham, 19th century
- AYBCM:2018.25.1 – Fragment of countryman's smock from Chesham
- AYBCM:2018.26-36 – Baby's clothes associated with Crouch family
- AYBCM:2018.37.1 – 'Dabster' kitchen roll, circa 1950s
- AYBCM:2018.75.1 – Banner inscribed "Mursley Band of Hope" on one side and "Prevention is better than Cure" on the other.
- AYBCM:2018.76.1 – Banner inscribed "Mursley Baptist Sabbath School 1821" and below "1919 In remembrance of the scholars who served in the great war. Christ loved us and gave himself for us".
- AYBCM:2018.77.1-3 – Pair of olive green suede ladies' shoes made by Church's with original box and shoe stretchers; 1960s or early 1970s; Belonged to donor's mother who lived in Great Kimble.
- AYBCM:2018.78.1-3 – Pair of brown leather men's two-eyelet lace-up shoes made by Church's with original box and shoe stretchers; 1963; Belonged to donor's father who lived in Great Kimble.
- AYBCM:2018.81 – China tea/coffee service given as wedding present to local couple who married in Bombay (now Mumbai), India in 1908 and moved back to Amersham in 1928.
- AYBCM:2018.82 – ceramic tankard commemorating Coronation of Edward VII and Queen Alexandra, from Arthur Lasenby Liberty and Lady Emma Liberty of The Lee Manor, Bucks
- AYBCM:2018.96 – clothes brush, c1960, used in Bucks by donor's husband to brush his City suits.
- AYBCM:2018.99 – blue linen smock with cream embroidery, 19th century, made and worn by member of donor's family in Waddesdon for special occasions such as Easter parades.
- AYBCM:2018.100 – Two framed photographs of Evans family members of Waddesdon, late 19th century.

Geology

- AYBCM:2018.39.1: 10 samples from a geological log, Great Linford Quarry, Milton Keynes
- AYBCM:2018.39.1: 10 samples from a geological log, Great Linford Quarry, Milton Keynes

Art

- AYBCM:2018.38.1: Portrait of 'Pigeon' Green of Aylesbury by May Kirkham, 1960s. Oil on board. Donation to collections.
- AYBCM:2018.79.1: Buckingham Oak by Diana Ashdown, intaglio / relief lino print 5/50 v.e. (varied edition), 2012, signed. Donation from the artist.
- AYBCM:2018.80.1: Market Square, Aylesbury, Bucks by Peter Johnston, 1984, coloured print, signed. Donation from member of the public.

LOANS OUT

- Feb – May 2018: Eight watercolours by Caroline Richardson to Amersham Museum for exhibition.
- July 2018: Eleven mannequins loaned to local charity shop for costume display as part of the Risborough Festival.
- July 2018: Three embroidered art works by Audrey Walker in the Embroiderers' Guild collection, loaned to the Ruthin Craft Centre, Wales for temporary exhibition.
- August 2018: Twenty-two embroidered works in the Embroiderers' Guild Collection, loaned to The Bowes Museum, County Durham, for temporary exhibition.
- September 2018: Set of 17th-century church-plate silver loaned to silversmith for cleaning.
- A card catalogue of the 1950s survey of Buckinghamshire Sarsens and Puddingstones by A. Morley-Davies and Arnold Baines.

PORTABLE ANTIQUITIES SCHEME

Over 1000 objects were presented and recorded in the year. Finds have been recorded from the Mesolithic to modern times, and include flint tools, pottery from the Bronze Age to the post-medieval period, coins from the Iron Age to post-medieval period (although mostly Roman) and a range of objects from everyday life including a copper-alloy Roman to early medieval buckle, plate and pin dating to AD350-450. This is a really interesting transitional period in Britain, and buckles such as this are thought to be military.

<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id883647>

SCHOOLS

During the year, school bookings have increased by around 10% due to increased marketing and improved / new school programmes. The new Prehistory workshop was created with the support of Kim Biddulph at the start of the year and trialled at Halton Resource Centre with Halton Primary School. Two new workshop staff were recruited in the summer ready to help deliver the new autumn bookings with local schools.

The history workshops were recreated during the summer, resulting in additional bookings in the autumn for 'Victorians' in particular. New Arts Award sessions for secondary and primary schools were delivered in the autumn, giving students a taster of how heritage organisations are run. A new archaeology badge session for uniformed organisations is now on offer.

VOLUNTEERS

New front-of-house volunteers and event volunteers were recruited during the year to support the increased number of events at the Museum. They also provided activities and handling sessions for visitors in the 'Touch of Bucks' galleries over the summer holidays.

Action4Youth NCS volunteers worked with museum staff on a 'Kids Take-Over' day, and fifteen volunteers ran the Museum for a day in August taking on the roles of Director, Marketing, Front of House, Learning, Curatorial & Evaluation and visitor services. The young people ran market stalls and games to raise £1200 to cover the costs of the 'Wonder Dogs' exhibition, which included match funding of £600 from one of the Trustees of Action4Youth.

WEDDINGS

Although there were no weddings booked in 2018, three weddings have now been booked for 2019 with more warm enquiries waiting to be confirmed. A new part-time Wedding Co-ordinator was appointed in March to promote and administer the service.

PARTNERSHIPS

Milton Keynes Council SLA

The focus this year has been on supporting Milton Keynes Museum with their plans for relocation of all the Milton Keynes collections back to the new stores and forthcoming new gallery displays. Most of the work has centred on providing archaeology support for the collections in Holne Chase.

Embroiderers Guild – BCMT

In July 2018 the Embroiderers' Guild permanent space in a section of the Art Gallery was redecorated and branded and a new exhibition with highlights from the 'Beautiful Stitch' and the 'Treasures of the Guild' collection was created for display over the next few months.

National Paralympic Heritage Trust

A large collection of artefacts from the 2012 Paralympic games was acquired in May 2018 and has been sorted and processed by Will Phillips, Keeper of Social History and Laura Cotton, of the Centre for Bucks Studies, throughout the rest of the year.

Museum Accreditation

The delayed Accreditation application results from the October 2016 submission were given in February 2018 with an award of full Accreditation Status for Bucks County Museum Trust.

National Portfolio Status

The Trust was awarded £100,000 per year from 2018 – 2022 by the Arts Council England with Band 1 National Portfolio Organisation status. This enabled the Trust to recruit several new staff, including a Community Outreach Officer, Workforce Development Officer and Marketing Officer. The funding supported community engagement work with Aylesbury Mosque, Aylesbury Hindu community, disability groups, the Aylesbury LGBTQ Society and other community groups. A series of events for these communities were held during the year including the Festival of Lights for Diwali, activities at the Eid Fayre for Aylesbury Mosque and Bucks Museum Pride for LGBTQ audiences. Contemporary collecting of objects from these communities has started with a few donations from the Hindu and LGBTQ community so far.

Museum Development Plans

A master plan with development ideas was created during the year to encompass the redevelopment of the permanent ‘Story of Bucks’ galleries, creation of new gallery spaces by repurposing behind-the-scenes spaces and redevelopment of the entrance and café areas. It was decided not to reapply for one large grant to HLF, but to fundraise for each individual project within the master plan. The redevelopment of the ‘Story of Bucks’ galleries is the main priority for the next two years. A fundraising programme is in progress and the project managers and exhibition designers have been appointed in readiness for future funding and development in 2019 onwards.

During the year some changes were made to the Church Street ‘Touch of Bucks’ galleries with a new Bucks Wildlife Gallery installed at the start of the exhibition. New art pieces by female artists have been hung and some of the Trust’s huge textile collection has been put on display, showing women’s fashions and suffragette dolls made by a local WI before the First World War.

Bucks Cultural Strategy

Bucks County Council have received some Arts Council funding during the year to start up a Bucks Cultural Strategy with the support of BCMT. A successful fundraising bid to the Rothschild Foundation from BCMT in August led to an award of £148,000 for a 3-year project, supported by some additional funding from Bucks County Council, to work with other museums on shared community engagement and to fund a Cultural Outreach Officer to deliver heritage and non-heritage cultural collaborations for Bucks.

Trustees

Hattie Llewelyn Davis, Chair of Bucks Health Trust, was appointed as a new Trustee on 13 August 2018.

Sue Shave
County Museum Director

CENTRE FOR BUCKINGHAMSHIRE STUDIES

ANNUAL REPORT 2017–2018

2017–18 has proved another busy year for the service, showing that the interest in archival study has not reduced over time, and users retain their interest and topics of research. This is particularly evident in the number of items that users have viewed and the length of time in the search room when they visit. The service has also seen an increase in more detailed enquiries and requests for research to be undertaken. A large number of accessions of new collections have been received, indicating that users continue to see the value in depositing collections for others to use.

As well as the day-to-day business, the service has developed and delivered a number of different projects, from cataloguing and conservation to digitisation and digital preservation, delivering talks to groups and attendance at events, as well as fundraising for activities to undertaking pieces of external consultancy to assist others and boost income.

ARCHIVES STRATEGY

Our ten-year Archives Strategy, written in 2013, was looking a little tired and outdated as a number of projects had moved on and we found that we were not referring to it as much as we should anymore. It has therefore been refreshed and revised for the remainder of its term (running up to 2023). The Strategy now focuses on six strategic outcomes:

- An improved archive service offer, safeguarding the county's records;
- Increased numbers of volunteers working with the service to deliver key projects;
- Improved engagement with children and young people;
- Greater contribution to the county's economy with support for the wider Council Cultural Strategy;
- Improved evidence base for the county's democratic and legal accountability;
- Improved public services and fully developed digital offer.

These six outcomes enable CBS to address all of the core work that needs to be done and focus on what it wants to deliver in the short, medium and long-term. The Strategy is accompanied by a work-plan that staff are constantly updating and working on through the year.

ACCREDITATION

A significant part of the end of the year was spent preparing the service's application for Archives Service Accreditation, which was submitted in April 2018. Accreditation has been the national standard for archive services since 2013, and it is expected by The National Archives that all places of deposit, such as the Centre, will be accredited. A full report on the result of the Accreditation process will be included in the 2018–19 Annual Report.

DISTANCE USER SURVEY

The latest Archives and Records Association distance user survey, compiled in conjunction with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, was held between September and November 2017. The survey is designed to gauge levels of satisfaction with the archive service's remote user experience (enquiries and website etc.).

Of the 117 surveys issued, the service received 30 (26%) responses to survey requests and the following information is drawn from the survey analysis. Overall satisfaction by users was 93.3% (based on those who said the service was 'very good' or 'good').

MILTON KEYNES

The service has a joint arrangement with Milton Keynes Council to deliver their archive service. This year, work has included a focus on the 50th anniversary of the designation of Milton Keynes as a New Town (on 23rd January 1967). Throughout the year, the service has been sharing stories about the

archive items that tell the stories of Milton Keynes through a touring exhibition and through a blog: “Milton Keynes in Fifty Historic Records”, using records held in the collections. The exhibition was displayed in CBS and several libraries in Milton Keynes and North Buckinghamshire, as well as an event in Roman Park, Milton Keynes. Through the blog, the service has published the original exhibition and additional ‘historic records’. The blog can be viewed at <https://mkin50records.wordpress.com/>

The service is also working closely with Milton Keynes Council on their plans for the development of an archives service for Milton Keynes. This includes the development of plans for a pilot service based in Milton Keynes Central Library to open in April 2019.

NATIONAL PARALYMPIC HERITAGE TRUST

Following on from the service’s work on the Mandeville Legacy project in the lead up to London 2012, the National Paralympic Heritage Trust was established in 2016 to take forward a number of the same aspects of work. Buckinghamshire County Council is one of four member bodies of the new Trust, who have engaged CBS in a service-level agreement to undertake the collecting and preservation of archive collections on their behalf. During the year, the service has accepted a number of collections related to the Paralympic movement in the UK, and worked with the Trust on the development of their first exhibition, which opened in Norwich in March 2018.

COLLECTIONS

It has not proved possible to compile many full catalogues, though all the parish registers and electoral registers received have been listed in full. A catalogue was completed for a large collection of records of the Dalrymple family of London, which had been held for many years and included numerous items relating to the Verney family of Claydon House (D 10). There has also been ongoing work to ensure that all our completed catalogues have been digitised and hence are available through our online catalogue.

The service was fortunate to receive notification in May 2017 from Arts Council England that we had been allocated the Buckinghamshire portions

of the Chester of Chicheley family collection, which had been accepted by the nation in lieu of inheritance tax. The service applied to have the collection allocated to them in 2015, so this was a very welcome outcome to a long-standing application. The majority of the collection had been held by the service for many years.

VOLUNTEERS

The service continues to benefit hugely from the work of volunteers who dedicate hours of their own time to enriching the collections that we hold. Over the course of the year they have assisted CBS with a large number of projects including: cleaning and wrapping volumes, scanning and cataloguing photographic collections, manning the Family History Helpdesk (run by Buckinghamshire Family History Society), box-listing and cataloguing (including family records from the Fremantle family and Clarks Solicitors of High Wycombe), indexing and transcription of cuttings files and World War One casualty books, book-binding, researching biographies for the Great War Buckinghamshire project (see below) and a number of other things that help the staff to concentrate on delivering the service to users.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND PROJECTS

Our best-attended event this year was the Buckinghamshire History Fair. It comprised a number of exhibitions from various heritage groups throughout the county, including Buckinghamshire Records Society, Buckinghamshire Military Museum Trust, Buckinghamshire Family History Society and Trenchard Museum. Alongside this ran a programme of talks about elements of Buckinghamshire History, including Claire de Carle talking about herbalist Maud Grieve, Professor Ian Beckett on the ‘Safe Duke’ Richard, Third Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, and Kerry Howard on Bletchley Park. This was our second instalment of the History Fair, and we have built on the success of the first event held in November 2016: a strong series of talks increased the length of visit for many of the visitors.

‘Archive of the Month’ is our opportunity to highlight items from the collections that tell timely or unusual stories; or sometimes just a document that we like. Each month an item and article appear

in the exhibition case at the Centre. This is replicated on our website, on a dedicated 'Archive of the Month' page. Articles over the course of the year have included: Applications for Exemption from Military Service, the Milton Keynes Archaeological News and Records regarding Observatory House in Slough, amongst other things.

Great War Buckinghamshire

The aims of the Great War Buckinghamshire Project have been to research the Great War from Buckinghamshire's perspective, and to record this on a bespoke and enduring online resource. Since the project started in 2016 we have been focussing on recruiting and training volunteers to help us achieve this.

In 2017–2018 a number of volunteers were trained in how to carry-out family history-style research. We have gathered names of individual names of men and women from numerous sources, including contemporary newspapers, war memorials, and names given to us at events. Volunteers then turn their research into biographies. As of March 2018, two-hundred and forty-four of these biographies have been submitted, from twenty-two different volunteers and staff.

Spinal 2 Sport

The project team began work on the Wellcome Trust-funded Spinal 2 Sport project in September 2017. This project, developed in partnership with the National Paralympic Heritage Trust, is funded by a grant of £175,566 to undertake cataloguing and conservation of three collections: patient files from the National Spinal Injuries Centre at Stoke Mandeville Hospital (part of Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust) and sporting heritage from the International Wheelchair and Amputee Sports Federation and WheelPower.

ACCESSIONS

During this period, the Office took in 128 accessions from sources including the County Council, District Councils, Parish Councils, parish and nonconformist churches and many private individuals. We also received a very generous bequest under the will of the late James Herbert Venn of an extensive collection of photographs, slides and negatives of places in Buckinghamshire, taken throughout his life (Acc: AR 58/2017).

The Buckinghamshire Military Museum Trust has deposited several collections, including many items relating to the First World War. We have received additional records relating to the Paralympics and Wheelchair Sports. As usual, there have also been many deposits of deeds, including several items collected by the British Records Association.

Selected highlights of other accessions are:

- Records of Hamnett Raffety, Estate Agents, 19th – 20th cent, including information about properties in Amersham, Farnham and Princes Risborough, High Wycombe, Iver and Great Marlow
- Abstract of title of Sir Thomas Stapleton, baronet, to property in Wexham and Stoke Poges, including Stoke Park, reciting deeds from 1633 to 1751, with family tree and digital images
- Papers of Hubert Alfred Papps (The Papps Collection), including material relating to the Stoke Mandeville Games
- Two maps of Simpson, showing the churchyard and adjoining land, 1841, and the property of Charles Warren, 19th cent
- Plan by George Gilbert Scott of restoration of the church of St Mary in Aylesbury, showing details of woodwork, c1846
- Records relating to The Homestead (3 Shenley Road) in Shenley Church End
- Deeds of the Red Lion Public House and Paradise Close (stamped Aylesbury Brewery Company Limited £50,000 Debenture Trust), 1787–1896
- Additional records of the International Wheelchair and Amputee Sports Federation, 20th – 21st cent
- The Johnson Collection, comprising papers relating to sales and purchases of property, mostly in North Buckinghamshire, including sales particulars, 20th cent
- Additional records of the Royal South Buckinghamshire Agricultural Association
- Deeds and papers relating to 32 Furlong Road, Bourne End, including plans, 1901–1984
- Deeds and papers relating to property in Hanslope, 1683–1932
- Quitclaim by Thomas Ward of Little Horwood to his second son Thomas Ward of Mursley, of land in Mursley, 11 January 1695/1696; Lease

- by John Pyke to John Symons of two closes (18 acres) in Mursley, 28 April 1753
- Bond from William Pigott of Doddershall Park in Quainton to Richard Lowndes of Swanbourne, to secure the repayment of £4,300, 24 Oct 1817
 - Will of Rev. George Chetwode of Chilton, made 5 May 1869, proved 29 August 1870; Marriage settlement of Charles Edmond Augustine Trevor Trevor-Battye and Maude Jessie Sowersby Middleton, 1 July 1902, with related deeds including appointments of new trustees and case relating to common rights in Little Hampden, 1902–1942
 - Deeds relating to cottage, malthouse and land on Blind Lane (formerly Potters Lane) in Padbury, including will of Rev. Edward Jermyn (1847) 1692–1901; Marriage settlement by lease and release of William Perry and Elizabeth Sidney, property in Turville, also places including Ranworth in Norfolk, 4-5 Aug 1738
 - Plans relating to places in Buckinghamshire comprising: Avering Down Farm in Bradenham, 1990–1993; Chenies Chapel in Chenies Church, 1967, 1973; Pickade House in Great Kimble, 1965; Inscription on almshouses at Langley Marish, 1959; 34 High Street in Marlow, 1970–1972.
 - Records of Ivan Pickles (architect for MKDC, 1971–1989) relating to commercial and office buildings in Central Milton Keynes, including floor plans and photographs, with some brochures, locations including Hunters Mill in Deanshanger, Saxon Court and Lloyds Court, 1970s–1980s
 - Papers, mostly relating to the Adams family of Ellesborough and Aylesbury
 - Records relating to Rev. Cotton Risley of Tingewick, and the families of Cotton, Clarke and Risley, 18th – 20th cent
 - Correspondence relating to research on Turnpike Roads in Buckinghamshire, by the late Dr Gibson, 1984–1995
 - Additional records of the Royal South Buckinghamshire Agricultural Association, comprising programmes for annual ploughing match, 1955, 1957–2011, 1913–2016, and DVD (2 copies) of events to celebrate 175th Anniversary in 2008
 - Papers relating to the purchase of Stampwell Farm in Chalfont St Peter, by Richard Whitchurch of Chalfont St Peter, gentleman, from Robert Picke of Norwood in Surrey, gentleman, comprising bond for quiet enjoyment of the property and receipt for the payment of £100, 1685
 - Conveyances of cottages in Stoke Mandeville by Daniel and Richard Browne of Wendover to various parties in 1676 and 1700, with final concord 21 Charles II [1669]; Correspondence and papers relating to the estate of Owen Groom, died 1956, including abstract of title of Ringwood on Kiln Road in Prestwood, 1956
 - Conveyances of cottages in Stoke Mandeville by Daniel and Richard Browne of Wendover to various parties in 1676 and 1700, with final concord 21 Charles II [1669]; Correspondence and papers relating to the estate of Owen Groom, died 1956, including abstract of title of Ringwood on Kiln Road in Prestwood, 1956
 - Records of the British Sports Association for the Disabled including:
 - Records of Wycombe Hospital, originally Earl of Beaconsfield Memorial Cottage Hospital then (after 1924) Wycombe War Memorial Hospital
 - Papers relating to Newland Park Teacher Training College
 - Additional records of Miss Cicely Baker (1900–1980) of Aylesbury and Birtton, including correspondence, photographs and paintings
 - Personal diaries of Mr Anthony Ford, subjects include the history and development of the New City of Milton Keynes, with some newspaper cuttings, 1972–2007
 - Additional records of the Steevens family of High Wycombe
 - Additional files of the Aylesbury Old Town Resident's Association, relating to the Secret Gardens Project (yearly opening of private gardens for charity), 1993–2004
 - Deeds and papers from Kemp, solicitors, Aspley Guise, relating to property in Bletchley, Buckingham, Maids Moreton, Great Linford, Newport Pagnell, Winslow and Woburn Sands
 - Plan of proposed canal from the Grand Union Canal in Slough to the Thames in Windsor, with detailed notes on the proposal (the canal was never built), 1969
 - Deeds of property of land in Windsor Lane in Little Missenden, Misbourne Lodge on Nags Head Lane in Great Missenden, and plot of land which was part of Little Kingshill Farm (all lying together and originally part of Little Missenden Abbey Estate), 1892–1967

- Deeds of property in Chesham, including cottages on Waterside (opposite Nags Head Yard), the former White Lion and cottages on Waterside, cottages, workshop and site of former British School on Townfield Yard, 16, 18, 20, 26 and 28A Red Lion Street and 66, 68, 70, 72, 74 and 76 Germain Street, 1799–2006

*Laura Cotton
County and Diocesan Archivist*

COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGY SERVICE

REPORT FOR 2018

The County Archaeological Service forms part of the Transport, Economy, Environment Service's Environment Team within Environment Services. Philip Markham is the Senior Archaeology Officer, Lucy Lawrence, formerly from Cotswold Archaeology, is the Archaeology Officer, Julia Wise is the HER Officer (part time), Paul Clements is the HER Assistant and Eliza Alqassar is the Environment Team Leader.

DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT

It has been another busy year for the team: highlights include:

Fenny Road, Stoke Hammond: A Roman ladder settlement has been partially excavated by Archaeological Solutions at Stoke Hammond in advance of residential development. The main part of the site is being preserved *in-situ* as open green space as part of the development scheme. The excavation has revealed a Roman trackway, square enclosure, boundary ditches and a cremation burial. An open day was held in August 2018.

Weston Turville/Broughton: A multi-period site has been excavated ahead of major residential development by Cotswold Archaeology. Archaeological remains stretching back to the Neolithic period have been revealed as well as Roman enclosures, trackways, and medieval house platforms. Members of BAS were invited to visit the site in July 2018.

Buckingham: Network Archaeology is excavating (November 2018) an interesting burial site where remains have been interred singly and in groups, in various positions and orientations (Fig. 1).

To date there have been few finds, but a buckle (Fig. 2) has been provisionally dated to the tenth to twelfth centuries.

(Both images are copyright Network Archaeology)

MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE SCHEMES

High Speed 2: We continue to provide advice through the HS2 Ltd Heritage Sub-Group on route-wide issues and with Fusion and a number of Historic Environment Research and Delivery Strategy (HERDS) Managers on site work. Historic England keeps us updated on Schedule 17 works and we discuss appropriate responses where required. The Schedule 17 works come through the district council planning departments and we are usually consulted when the applications come in.

Fieldwork has and is taking place in a number of areas including Calvert, Fleet Marston, Stoke Mandeville, Great Missenden and the Colne Valley. Fusion supplies us with draft project specifications for comment and we sometimes request minor amendments. The fieldwork around St Mary's Church, Stoke Mandeville, has been in progress for a number of months and an open day took place on Sunday 9 September from 12pm to 5pm at the Stoke Mandeville Village Community Centre.

The service-level agreement between HS2 Ltd and Bucks County Council has now been signed and we are now being paid for our time spent on this project. Fusion and HS2 will ensure that all fieldwork and recording is undertaken to the same standard and format. We are being invited to monitor the work and make comments: this appears to be working well. It is envisaged that the information produced will be in an appropriate HER format for easy data entry, although this has not yet been agreed with the HER community. HS2 has agreed a three-year service-level agreement for our HER data.

East-West Rail: We attended a meeting with Atkins at their Birmingham office to discuss the cultural heritage chapter of the environmental statement included with the TWAO (Transport and Works Act Orders). We responded to our strategic planning colleagues' consultation over the TWAO saying that as the Environmental



FIGURE 1 Burials at Buckingham

Statement was not clear and the document to address the archaeological issues had not yet been produced, it would be appropriate to apply a number of conditions to any consent so that the archaeology is adequately covered by the scheme. We have good working relations with Atkins and have agreed a number of ecological mitigation schemes associated with this development. It is understood that this scheme goes to public inquiry in March 2019. At the meeting with Atkins it was hoped that the historic environment content could be agreed so that this would not be an issue to take time at the inquiry.

Heathrow New Runway: A number of meetings have taken place over the heritage strategy: comments from us and other local authority archaeological services have been acknowledged and documents have been revised. We are expecting a draft document covering the archaeological issues to be made available in the autumn. A service-level agreement to pay for our time spent on this scheme has been agreed.

Western Rail Link to Heathrow: We attended a Network Rail meeting at their Reading offices to discuss their overarching written scheme of investigation for the works. We and the other local authority archaeological services had made comments on their draft and our points were accepted as being reasonable and acceptable. Network Rail expects to complete the evaluation works (where land access is available) before the end of 2018. These works tie in with the current excavations by Wessex Archaeology at the Langley/Richings Park CEMEX mineral site.

Oxford/Cambridge Expressway: We have attended a number of meetings over this and have expressed the need to assess the historic environment implications of the proposed corridors and routes. The Highways Agency said that this would not be done until the corridor has been chosen and that the historic environment information would inform the chosen route. We expect an HER information request to inform the scheme in the near future.



FIGURE 2 Medieval buckle from the Buckingham cemetery

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD

The HER has had a busy year. In addition to supplying consultants, developers and the public with information, the team has been checking and creating new database records for South Bucks Metal-Detecting Club finds from the 1980s and 1990s in the West Wycombe area.

The HER volunteer working on the milestones project is still making final edits to the existing entries. As previously reported, if she wishes to continue volunteering for us, we may ask her to tackle the turnpike tollhouses.

In 2018 the HER was consulted on 157 Countryside Stewardship applications covering 15,713 hectares within Buckinghamshire. Of these, 15 (10%) were for Higher tier schemes and 142 (90%) were for Mid-tier schemes. The HER was able to provide added value to 54% of the applications and responded to all consultations within the 20-day period required by Natural England.

The Buckinghamshire Gardens Trust Research and Recording Project is continuing to make good

progress with 51 reports completed, 4 reports in draft and work underway on a further 10 gardens. In 2017 and 2018 the volunteers have also been researching the 16 parks and gardens in Buckinghamshire where Humphry Repton was involved, as part of the national Repton 200 festival, which culminated in an illustrated publication on Repton's work in Buckinghamshire and a conference at Ashridge in August. An article by Sarah Rutherford, published in this volume, describes the Trust's work on this project.

FUTURE

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

*Phil Markham
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CONSERVATION & ARCHAEOLOGY IN MILTON KEYNES 2017

DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT

The Conservation & Archaeology Team received 1153 planning consultations during 2017, 614 of which were for the Senior Archaeological Officer.

FIELDWORK

Thirty-three fieldwork projects were reported to the HER in 2017. Projects comprised 5 historic building records; 11 trial-trench evaluations, 6 geophysical surveys; 1 excavation and 9 watching briefs. Highlights included Albion Archaeology's excavation close to the Grand Union Canal at the east end of the Campbell Park grid square (see article by Jo Barker, this volume), which revealed two 2nd to 3rd-century stone-built corn drying kilns with adjacent stone-slabbed crop processing floors.

BUILDING CONSERVATION

After a few years of listing related activity involving New Town structures and public art, 2017 was a relative disappointment with no new listings of New Town structures, despite assessments being carried out on the modernist Cotton Valley sewage works and the County Architect-designed Summerfield School in Bradwell Common. Elsewhere in the borough there were additions to the list with the war memorials at Bow Brickhill, Chicheley (Sir Herbert Baker FRIBA RA) and New Bradwell Cemetery listed at Grade II. Finally, the much altered and extended Grade II listed Parkside Hotel (formerly Woughton House) and its former stables and coach house in Woughton on the Green were de-listed by DCMS at the request of the site owners.

Consultants AFW Ltd, now trading as Wood Plc, completed the first group of draft conservation area reviews in the autumn (Bradwell, Great Linford, Milton Keynes Village, Shenley Church End) alongside the overarching policy document. Draft reviews have also been received for comment

for the group 1b areas: Stony Stratford, Bletchley, Willen, Woughton on the Green. Site visits and preparatory work are under way for the group 2 areas: Castlethorpe, Clifton Reynes, Emberton, Hanslope, Lavendon, Newton Blossomville, North Crawley, Olney, Ravenstone, Sherington, Stoke Goldington, & Weston Underwood.

Nominations to the Milton Keynes New Town Local Heritage Register opened on 23 January (MK's 51st Anniversary) and will close on Friday 23 March. More information here: <https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/planning-and-building/conservation-and-archaeology/new-town-register>

HERITAGE AT RISK

A borough-wide register of heritage at risk was published on the Council's website on 6 February 2018, the culmination of a 2-year project. This list seeks to identify heritage assets at risk, monitor them and take necessary safeguarding action. Heritage assets are prioritised so that action is taken on those buildings at the greatest risk of loss. Where a heritage asset is identified as requiring works, the Conservation & Archaeology Team will contact the owners to provide advice and agree the course of action required to safeguard the asset. Should owners refuse to take the necessary steps to secure either the short-term or longer-term preservation of the asset, the Local Planning Authority will use the powers available to it under the 1990 Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act. The register may be viewed here: <https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/planning-and-building/conservation-and-archaeology/heritage-at-risk>

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD

Work has proceeded with the items on the Historic England-approved HER Action Plan for 2017 – 2019.

OUTREACH

The Senior Archaeological Officer worked with the Parks Trust and contractor Cotswold Archaeology on Phase 1 of the Great Linford Manor Park project. This involved geophysical survey (high resolution resistivity and magnetometry) to identify and trace former parkland features, in addition to archaeological monitoring and recording during hydrological works aimed at reinstating the Hine Well (a natural spring) and the cascades. A funding application has been submitted to the HLF for Phase 2 which, if successful, will incorporate community archaeological opportunities informed by the Phase 1 surveys.

The 11th annual Milton Keynes Archaeology Day was another successful and well-attended event, attracting people of all ages from Milton Keynes and beyond to enjoy the talks, displays

and activities on offer. With a venue change due to building works at the Central Library, the new venue of Christ the Cornerstone forced a slight re-think of the day with the programme focussing on displays and activities in the morning, followed by two guest speakers in the afternoon.

This year's 'hand's on' activity for young people was provided by Albion Archaeology of Bedford, who brought along the 'cave' from their successful Saturday Archaeology Workshops at The Higgins Museum for a session of 'Painting the Past', in which participants were able to use a range of materials to produce their modern take on prehistoric art.

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