



Issue 161 January 2021

# LAMAS NEWSLETTER

LONDON AND MIDDLESEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY



The opening lecture in the LAMAS 2020-21 programme, jointly presented with The Prehistoric Society, was *A Bronzed Sunset Over The Marshes: Revealing a Late Bronze Age enclosure*, by Andrew Peachey. Owing to problems caused by COVID-19, this was also the first talk to be transmitted using Zoom software.

[www.lamas.org.uk](http://www.lamas.org.uk)

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## NOTICES

### ***Newsletter: Copy Date***

Please note that the final copy deadline for the May 2021 *Newsletter* is 23 March 2021. Please send items for inclusion by email preferably (as MS Word attachments) to: **rhbg.lamas@gmail.com**, or by surface mail to me, Richard Gilpin, Honorary Editor, LAMAS *Newsletter*, 84 Lock Chase, Blackheath, London SE3 9HA. It would be greatly appreciated if contributors could please ensure that any item sent by mail carries postage that is appropriate for the weight and size of the item.

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### **Editor's introduction**

The January 2021 issue of the LAMAS *Newsletter* is being published electronically in colour, but traditional black and white copies are being printed and posted to members for whom the Society has no email address. **Any reader who is not receiving the *Newsletter* in colour but wishes to do so is urged to send their email address to: [secretary@lamas.org.uk](mailto:secretary@lamas.org.uk).** Once again, the Society asks those who are aware of other members who may be having difficulty receiving and reading their copy to help us to help them.

In 2009 the psychologist Aric Sigman wrote, in his paper *Well Connected? The biological implications of 'social networking'*, that:

“One of the most pronounced changes in the daily habits of British citizens is a reduction in the number of minutes per day that they interact with another human being...Parents spend less time with their children than they did only a decade ago...The proportion of people who work at home alone continues to rise...Recent history has seen people in marked retreat from one another as Britain moves from a culture of greater common experience to a society of more isolated experience”.

That was eleven years ago.

If he was right, perhaps the start of a new year is a good time for us to consider whether the COVID-19 pandemic may have taken our self-imposed isolation to a new level and, if so, whether there is anything that we can (or should?) do to reverse this trend.

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**LAMAS 165<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting and Presidential Address**  
**Tuesday 16 February 2021**

Notice is hereby given of the LAMAS 165<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting and Presidential Address to be held on Tuesday 16 February at 6.15pm. Owing to the ongoing uncertainty regarding the course of the Covid-19 pandemic, this will take place online via the Zoom platform with Eventbrite tickets available via the LAMAS website from January. The AGM will be followed by the Presidential Address by Gillian Tindall, entitled **The Long History of Conservation**.

The 165<sup>th</sup> AGM Agenda is as follows:

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the 164<sup>th</sup> AGM, 2020
3. Annual Report and Accounts
4. Election of Officers and Members of Council
5. Appointment of Examiner(s)
6. Election of President
7. Any Other Business

Copies of the Minutes of the 164<sup>th</sup> AGM, held on 11 February 2020 and the Annual Report and Accounts will be made available via email prior to the meeting. If any members not on email would like a copy please contact the Secretary at the address given on the back page of the *Newsletter*.

Council would welcome nominations of anyone interested in becoming a member of Council. These should be addressed to the Chair at the address given on the back page of the *Newsletter*, or by email to the Secretary (secretary@lamas.org.uk) to arrive no later than Tuesday 16 January 2021.

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**Changes to LAMAS Conferences and Awards**

The 2021 **Conference of London Archaeologists** will now take place by Zoom through Eventbrite, and tickets that were purchased for 2020 will be honoured. It is hoped that the **Local History Conference** will be able to take place in autumn 2021.

Since the COVID-19 lockdown affected the 31 March submission of entries for the **2020 Publication Awards** (which would have been announced at the November Local History Conference), the deadline for entries for the 2020 Publication Awards has been being extended to 31 December 2020.

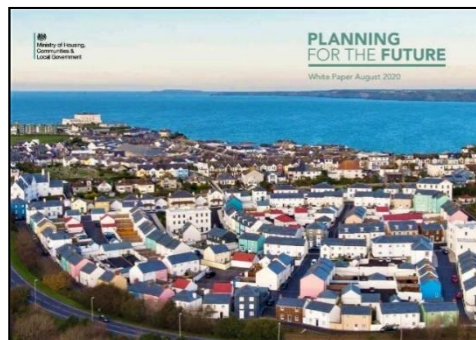
The deadline for entries for the **2021 Publication Awards** will be 31 March 2021. Application forms for the **2021 Publication Awards** are being sent to affiliated societies with the January 2021 issue of the *Newsletter*, by mail, or by email.

Entries for the 2020 and 2021 awards will be judged at the same time. LAMAS apologises for any difficulties caused to its members and its affiliated societies by the above changes and is grateful for their understanding in these difficult times.

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### **Planning for the Future**

In August 2020 the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government published a White Paper consultation document, which includes far-reaching implications for the archaeology of London, and the Society believes that is important that all members should be aware of these implications. The response to the consultation from the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society, submitted 28 October 2020, is below.



“I write to you on behalf of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society. Our geographical area of interest includes the central nucleus of the City of London, as well as Greater London, with its constituent 32 London Boroughs. A primary concern of our Society is to ensure that London’s built and buried historic environment is protected when threatened by development proposals that are determined within the planning system as it now exists. We would therefore like to comment on the proposals put forward in the current White Paper.

We understand, from the Prime Minister’s introduction to the White Paper, that a “radical reform” of the planning system is envisaged, which will involve “levelling the foundation and building, from the ground up, a whole new planning system for England”. We are aware that “levelling the foundation” and “radical reform” involves dismantling the provisions of the 1947 Town and Country Planning Act, where each planning application is considered on its own merits, and by replacing it with a Zonal system, where applications are judged as to whether or not they meet pre-determined criteria.

We are concerned that, if this should happen without measures providing for adequate protection being in place, London’s archaeological landscapes are likely to be destroyed unrecorded and the character of small towns and villages disfigured as buildings are altered or simply demolished without adequate study.

Safeguards within the existing national planning process have been slowly and painfully built-up during the last half century. Recent austerity measures have already weakened Local Planning Authorities capacity to implement these safeguards. From a national perspective, it is reported that between 2006 and 2018, the number of conservation officers providing

planning advice for Councils fell from about 1,100 to just under 600, a reduction of more than 40%. Similarly, the number of local government archaeologists responsible for curating the archaeological resource and providing advice to planners and developers has been cut by about 33% overall.

The White Paper proposes a scheme which fundamentally removes the planning system built up since the end of WW2 and replaces it with a mechanism intended to facilitate development. Zonal criteria will mostly replace the current practice, where individual planning applications are examined, each on its own merits. In both 'Growth' and 'Renewal' zones, development will be the presumption. It is important therefore to ensure that any new Act is accompanied by measures which keep in place the ability to protect, to investigate and - where necessary - retain both standing buildings and archaeological sites.

In responding to your White Paper, we therefore seek your assurance that:

1. Within 'Protected' zones, where individual planning applications are considered, provision for the prior investigation of all archaeological sites and standing buildings, will still be included. Otherwise large numbers of currently non-designated heritage assets, whether known or unknown, standing or buried, may be destroyed without record.
2. In both 'Growth' and 'Renewal' zones, firstly, when development is proposed, provision will be made for both Heritage Statements and Desk Based Assessments in order to identify, characterise, and provide for the heritage at risk. Secondly, when Environmental Impact Assessments are undertaken, consideration of the impact on the historic environment will not be excluded.

Finally, in compliance with your aim of putting local communities at the centre of planning, so as to create "places where people want to live", we ask you to ensure that their historic environment is protected and that opportunities are provided for their participation in projects carried to investigate and record the past."

Harvey Sheldon  
Chair of Council  
London and Middlesex Archaeological Society  
28 October 2020

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### **LAMAS Lecture Programme 2020-2021**

Members will be aware that the 2020-2021 lecture programme could not be held at the Museum of London. Following government advice, the first lectures have taken place online only via Zoom, and they will continue in this way until further notice, from 6.30pm to 7.30pm on the dates below. Members are therefore still requested to book on Eventbrite,



<https://www.lamas.org.uk/lectures.html>. As usual non-members will be very welcome and there will be a charge of £2.50.

We hope that it will be possible to resume lectures at the Museum before long, and we will email members to notify any changes – please also check the website and our social media platforms. Thank you for your understanding.

**12 January 2021**

**London Calling: an elsewhere archaeology of the Calais Jungle,**

Louise Fowler, MOLA

*This lecture will present the initial results of work by MOLA and collaborators on a group of objects collected by photographer Gideon*



*Mendel at the site of the Jungle camp in Calais, following its demolition in 2016. The project brings time depth and archaeological insight to a situation that is often framed as a moment of crisis, and challenges some long-held archaeological assumptions. Image: recording cans from the Calais Jungle with photographer Gideon Mendel ©MOLA.*

**16 February 2021**

**Annual General Meeting and Presidential Address: The Long History of Conservation,** Gillian Tindall

*We are inclined to date concern for historic buildings from the time of Ashbee and Morris, but an interest in ‘relics’ was already developing two centuries earlier in the wake of Cromwellian destruction. With the New Learning, the relative peace and easier travel the 18<sup>th</sup> century brought, antiquarianism flowered. Even before 1800 enthusiasts were busy sketching parts of Tudor London before they disappeared; and as enthusiasm for the Gothic and for the pre-Raphaelite world expanded, new discoveries were made – and sometimes faked.*

**9 March 2021**

**Clitterhouse Farm, an Anglo-Saxon farm on the doorstep of Brent Cross,** Roger Chapman, Hendon and District Archaeological Society

*HADAS, the Hendon and District Archaeological Society, has operated in Barnet for over 50 years. For the last few years HADAS has been exploring Clitterhouse Farm. This is the story of that exploration and the local archaeological society that has undertaken it.*

### **13 April 2021**

#### **Excavations within the Great Kitchen of Westminster Abbey,**

Joe Brooks, Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd

*Between 2017 and 2018, PCA undertook a complex excavation within the former Adrian Boult Music Centre at Westminster School. The school lies immediately south of Westminster Abbey within the monastic precinct, and the site largely lay within the monastic Great Kitchen built during the 1070s to serve Edward The Confessor's Abbey and used until its demolition shortly after the Dissolution. Extensive evidence for the arrangement and use of the kitchen was found, and the later reuse of the site for dwellings.*

### **11 May 2021**

#### **Joint Prehistoric Society and LAMAS lecture: 'In this Heath hath many camps be pitched ...': The West London Landscapes Project in context,**

Jon Cotton and Nicholas Eldon  
*The West London Landscapes Project is intended to round up the last of the historic Greater London archaeological backlog. We will highlight results from a range of prehistoric and Roman sites examined between 1979 and 1994 on and beyond the Heathrow terrace gravels in west London and set them in their local and wider regional contexts.*

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### **57<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of London Archaeologists**

Owing to the COVID-19 pandemic the Society was unable to hold its traditionally annual Conference of London Archaeologists at the Museum of London in 2020. **It will instead be held online on Saturday 20 March 2021.** Details are still subject to change, so readers are urged please to check on the website after Christmas. The Conference is expected to include the following.

#### **Opening remarks and presentation of the 2019 Ralph Merrifield Award**

Harvey Sheldon, LAMAS Chairman

#### **Tideway Site 4: Barn Elms: going to town on an Iron Age oppidum?**

Mike Curnow, MOLA

#### **Heading out of town: centuries of roadside activity at Blossom Street**

Alison Telfer, MOLA

#### **Saxon occupation on the banks of the Thames: New evidence from Fulham**

Helen Chittock, AOC Archaeology Group

#### **Excavations at Somerset House, Strand**

Antonietta Lerz, MOLA

#### **The Priory of the Virgin Mary and John the Baptist (Holywell Priory):**

**an Augustinian nunnery from foundation to dissolution**

Matt Edmonds, PCA

**Two decades of London's religious houses**

Susan Wright, MOLA

**Saxon Minster, Cluniac Priory, Benedictine Abbey:  
the story of Bermondsey Abbey**

Alistair Douglas, PCA

**And then there were nuns.**

**Osteological evidence from London's female monastic houses**

Don Walker, MOLA osteologist

**Monastic history and archaeology in London: where do we go from here?**

Nick Holder

***PLEASE NOTE THAT ADVICE ON HOW TO JOIN THE CONFERENCE  
WILL BE PUBLISHED ON THE LAMAS WEBSITE IN THE NEW YEAR***

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### **LAMAS *Lates* in the time of Covid-19**

Since it would currently be impractical and also somewhat unwise to organise groups of people for the kind of events that we have held in the past, the Society has now trialled two virtual **LAMAS *Lates*** events, conducted via the Zoom platform.

We will advertise these events to members by the email mailing list, on the website, on our Facebook page and, when copy dates permit, in the *Newsletter*.

Full instructions will be given, and the format will vary slightly, but we hope to bring a variety of virtual tours to the comfort of your home whilst the current social distancing measures are in place.

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### **‘John Stow’s Legacy’**

#### **A Special Online Lecture by Vanessa Harding**

LAMAS is delighted to announce that Vanessa Harding, Professor of London History at Birkbeck, University of London, will be delivering a special lecture, **‘John Stow’s Legacy’** online via Zoom on Monday 19 April 2021 at 6.30pm.

John Stow’s *Survey of London*, has been reprinted, revised, and expanded many times since its first publication in 1598, but Stow’s impact on the writing of history is much wider than the *Survey* alone. His ‘legacy’ can be considered in two ways: the materials he collected and preserved for posterity, and the influence of his own writings on successors in the field.

What happened to Stow’s books and papers after he died in 1605?

Who followed him in his endeavours?

This talk will introduce Richard Smyth (1590-1675), city law officer, book collector, and independent scholar, who acquired some books once



belonging to Stow, and made his own contribution to the history of London through his collection of manuscripts and information used by later writers, notably John Strype for his massively expanded edition of Stow's *Survey of London* published in 1720.

Members will be aware that we had to cancel the Stow Memorial Service, which was due to take place at St Andrew's Undershaft in April 2020, and it was hoped that it could go ahead in April 2021 instead. The next ceremony in the church however will not be until 2023.

With the Covid-19 situation continuing to create uncertainty, the decision was made to move Professor Harding's lecture to April 2021 and present it online.

This will be a FREE event, but booking is essential to enable the Zoom link to be sent to attendees. Tickets will be available via the LAMAS website from early in 2021.

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### **LAMAS Research Fund: an extension**

We think that you will all agree that this year has been unusual, to say the least, and disruptive to work and study patterns for many of us. In these circumstances, LAMAS are extending the deadline for applications to this year's Research Fund to 31 May 2021. This would mean that the final project would need to be submitted by April 2022. The Fund is set at £5,000 and an application can be made for all or part of this amount. For more information and instructions on how to apply please see the Research Fund page on our website <http://www.lamas.org.uk/research-fund.html>.

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### **Please renew your LAMAS Membership**

The subscription renewal date of 1 October for the LAMAS year 2020-2021 has now gone past and some members, despite receiving reminders, have not renewed their membership. For them the most recent issues of the *Newsletter* and *Transactions* will unfortunately be their last.

It is unfair to expect those who do pay their subscription to cover the cost for others who do not. So, if you are at all worried about which group you are in and would definitely like to remain part of LAMAS, then please contact Fiona on [membership@lamas.org.uk](mailto:membership@lamas.org.uk) and she will check for you.

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### **Honorary Newsletter Editor**

We know that, as a member of LAMAS, you already have a keen interest in the archaeology and local history of Greater London, but would you also like to help us to inform, educate and entertain your fellow members?

Our esteemed Newsletter Editor, Richard Gilpin, is stepping down next year and we are seeking a well organised, enthusiastic new Editor to take over production of the Newsletter, which goes out to members 3 times a year.

As Editor you will be:

- scheduling and planning each issue in advance;
- ensuring regular contents are accurate and up-to-date;
- finding contributions and writing your own material for inclusion;
- proof reading and editing texts;
- using desktop publishing software to pull text and images together;
- liaising with the printers and the Hon. Membership Secretary to ensure timely distribution;
- an *ex officio* member of LAMAS Council and the Publications Committee.

So if you enjoy searching the internet for interesting archaeological and historical news stories, have a good understanding of the English language and the relevant IT skills needed to bring everything together in an attractive and entertaining publication, and can spare roughly a week or so every four months, then you could be the next LAMAS Honorary Newsletter Editor and we would love to hear from you. The role is unpaid but all out of pocket expenses will be met by the Society. For more information or to express an interest in the role please contact the Honorary Secretary at [secretary@lamas.org.uk](mailto:secretary@lamas.org.uk).

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### **Syon Abbey**

John Adams and Stuart Forbes have produced the following items based on documents related to the former Syon Abbey at Brentford (Bridgettine, 1415-1539). The first five have recently been accepted by the Swedish National Archives for its collection. John and Stuart are now offering all of them to anyone interested, free of charge and free of copyright, in Word or pdf format:

1. A Syon Abbey Bibliography, revised to May 2020 (149pp).
2. A List of Extant Syon Manuscripts and Library Books, and of the printed books by, or attributed to, Syon Abbey Authors, revised to May 2020 (388pp).
3. The Syon Abbey Herbal, before 1517, by Thomas Betson, Librarian at Syon (377pp with illustrations). This is the last Herbal to be written in a monastery in Britain before the Dissolution.
4. Transcription of and Commentary on the Syon Abbey Dissolution Inventory (November 1539), TNA LR 2/112, with TNA E 117/11/58 and Oxford University Bodleian MS Add. E. 3 (R). (187pp with illustrations).

5. Transcription of British Library Egerton MS 2815 (1548-1551). Account Roll of John Pickarell, Treasurer to Edward Seymour, Duke of Somerset. The roll is 32 ft in length and covers the period when Syon Abbey was demolished and Syon House built.
6. Syon Abbey, Its Herbal, Medical Books and Care of the Sick: Healthcare in a Mixed Mediaeval Monastery (2016). 141pp.

If any members of LAMAS would like any or all of the above they should contact Stuart Forbes (stuart.s.forbes@gmail.com) or John Adams (j.s.adams@amcd.co.uk) stating which number(s) and whether they would like to receive them in pdf or Word format.

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### LAMAS Lectures

The first LAMAS lecture of the 2020-2021 season (jointly with the Prehistoric Society) was **“A Bronzed Sunset Over The Marshes: Revealing a Late Bronze Age enclosure**, given by Andrew Peachey. This had been planned as the final talk of the 2019-2020 season, but COVID-19 meant that it had to be postponed. It finally took place as a Zoom presentation on 13 October and, for the benefit of those who were unable to ‘attend’ his lecture, Andrew has generously provided the following précis.

Situated on a gravel spur overlooking the former Wennington Marshes and the River Thames; the cropmark of a square enclosure has been known since the 1960s. Recent investigations by Archaeological Solutions prior to mineral extraction have revealed this to be a late Bronze Age enclosure containing limited evidence for domestic occupation but with the striking presence of a classic ‘founders hoard’ of bronze items. It is rarely that a hoard is recovered as part of systematic archaeological investigation, and this site may provide a new frame through which to view such conspicuous deposition.

The relatively small enclosure and non-metal finds assemblage contrasts in magnitude with the extensively settled late Bronze Age landscape of the lower Thames, including Mucking and Springfield Lyons, both of which provide evidence of bronze working. This site includes a single roundhouse and no evidence of metal working, but it is notable for an apparent alignment of the entranceway, roundhouse, and a four-post structure that sits just beyond the rear of the enclosure. This alignment was greater emphasised by the discovery of a bronze hoard in four groups, deposited on that alignment in the enclosure ditch directly behind the roundhouse. The four groups of metalwork appear broadly contemporary and spaced about 1 metre apart from each other, seeming passed down to an individual standing within a pit cut into the partially silted up enclosure ditch.

The metalwork, named the Havering Hoard, comprised a wide range of objects, all deliberately broken or fragmented in some way, and with no

single fragment from the same object as another in the hoard. The distribution of objects also suggests a degree of arrangement, possibly reflecting sorting and packing during the accumulation of material, even within the four groups that make up the hoards and probably prior to deposition (in the roundhouse?). Three of the hoard groups are similarly sized, while the fourth and highest hoard is slightly smaller, possibly the remainder of material – or had material been removed after the original deposition? The Havering Hoard contained a total of 443 items and in composition is similar to many in south-eastern Britain and northern

France, albeit with some rare items with strong continental affinities, collectively dating to c.900-800BC. The dominant object type was axe heads, with swords and spearheads relatively common. The axes are primarily socketed types (right) and, intriguing, none was produced by the same mould, suggesting they may have been collected from a fairly



wide area. Most axes were worn or re-sharpened, but a lot of damage resulted from deliberate breakage through hammering, splitting or crushing, possibly after heating; while sword fragments had clearly been bent and snapped. One sword was an unusual and elaborate variant paralleled in western France.

Less common items included knives, a razor, sickles, an awl, gouges and a chape that preserved a wooden dowel in its fastening. Of intrinsic interest was a pair of terret rings used to prevent the reins tangling on a cart or chariot, unique in Britain but paralleled in Normandy and western France. The hoards also included fragments of ingots in varying sizes, and casting waste, but were clearly removed from an area where metal working actually occurred.

So why might the Havering Hoard have been assembled and deposited? The placement and alignment of the hoard suggests a systematic and organised approach that may have involved the collection of material from across a wide swathe of society, or the delivery of individual items to this site from various communities. This may have been as a tax or tribute to metal workers who lived separate to other communities, or possibly they and the metal were kept discrete by the authority of the period. The placement of the hoard suggests that although the enclosure may originally have had a defensive function, metal work was only deposited when it had ceased to be effective but remained as a soft boundary.

Whatever the underlying reason, it appears that small parts of items were deliberately removed as implements and fittings were broken, possibly with the remainder re-cast into new objects, with the ‘founders hoard’

deliberately placed in a screened area with close respect to the marshes and the River Thames, but not placed beyond reach within those watery areas.

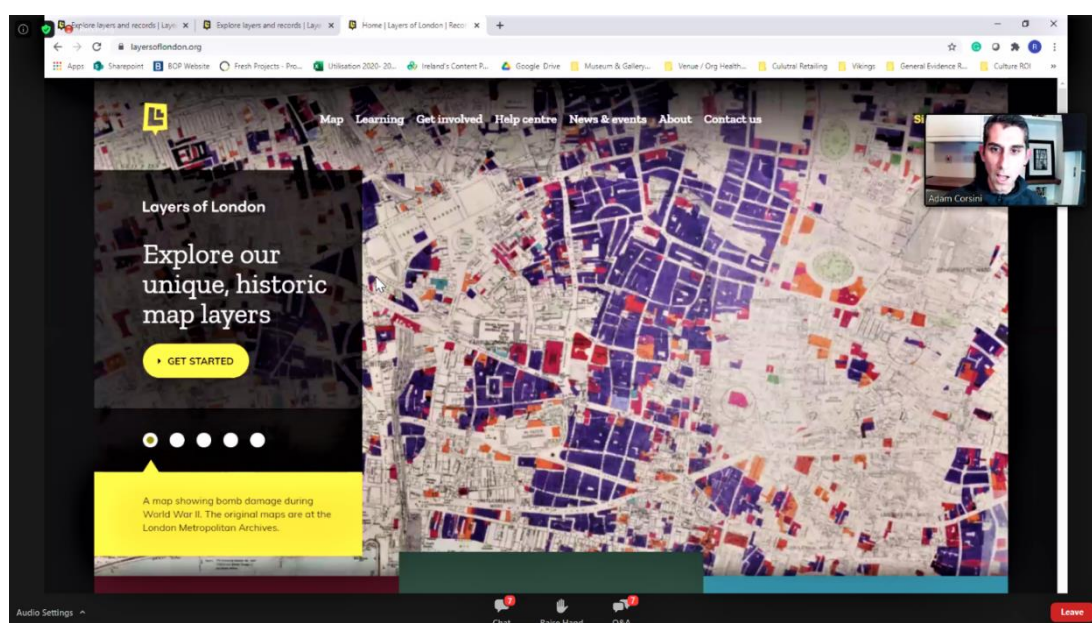
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## LAMAS Lectures

The second LAMAS lecture of the 2020-2021 season, using Zoom again, was **Layers of London: putting histories on the map** and was given on 10 November by Adam Corsini.

Filling the screen with pages from the Layers of London website, he expanded on the preview that he had provided on pages six and seven in the September 2020 *Newsletter*.

Making full use of Zoom he was able to show the extraordinary amount of information available and how to access it, and vividly demonstrated the remarkable opportunities that it could offer to archaeologists, social historians and anyone interested in the capital. The project has developed



from initially capturing maps of London from different periods in order to overlay them (the website page of the World War II bomb damage map is shown above). There are currently 27 different layers from 1270 to the present day and users can overlay selected maps to build up a picture of change over time. Public participation has allowed this stunning resource to move on with added depth and local context.

Sometimes Zoom is a less than perfect substitute for the traditional presentation given to an audience in person but, in this case, it was ideal, enabling Adam to demonstrate the range and flexibility of the website as it would appear on the screen of anyone visiting [www.layersoflondon.org](http://www.layersoflondon.org) and wishing to make use of its facilities. Readers are urged to visit the website and press the Get Started button...

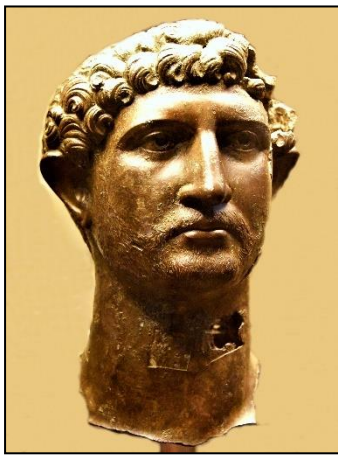
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### **Who is Worthy or Unworthy of Public Commemoration in London?**

Today London's churches, civic buildings and public spaces are graced with all manner of statues erected to commemorate various actors, civic leaders, military personnel, politicians, religious leaders, royalty, social reformers, saints and writers. Another option for public commemoration is to have a college, hospital, school, or street named after you. The latter option ensures that your name gets frequently mentioned in addresses, while most public statues are ignored. How many pedestrians bother to look at the imposing equestrian statue of Charles I at Charing Cross? He is a king with a controversial reputation. Some see him as a saint and martyr. Others see him as a fool who led his country into civil war and was deservedly executed for treason in 1649. A statue of Charles's enemy and successor, the military dictator: Oliver Cromwell (died 1658) – another leader with a controversial reputation – stands outside the Houses of Parliament.

The changing reputation of leaders and the decision that they no longer deserve public commemoration is nothing new. Across the Roman empire, statues of the emperor (who was also considered to be a god) were erected in public places as a reminder of his authority and divinity. In AD 68 when the inhabitants of Britain and France rebelled against Roman rule and high taxes, they 'threw down and shattered' images of the unpopular emperor Nero. There are a number of finds of shattered fragments of Roman bronze statuary recovered from watercourses that could be interpreted as the actions of the disaffected: public statues being broken up and the valuable metalwork deliberately deposited in such a manner that it could not easily



be recovered or the images reinstated. One example is the head of a large bronze statue (left) of the Emperor Hadrian (born AD 76, reigned 117-38) which depicts him aged about thirty, some fifteen years before his visit to Britain in AD 122. It was recovered during dredging of the Thames in 1834 close to the site of the Roman and medieval London Bridge and is now part of the collections of the British Museum (not currently on display). We have no idea how this majestic head ended up in the river, but it is very unlikely

to represent an accidental loss. It might represent an ex-situ portion of a statue originally located on the Roman bridge or in a nearby shrine.

There is an ongoing public debate about the desirability of commemorating some historic figures who, while being respected in their day, are now seen as controversial. The best-known example is Edward Colston (died 1721), who was a Bristol slave trader and philanthropist. In 1895 a statue of him was erected in Bristol as an act of public recognition for his philanthropy. On 7 June 2020 Black Lives Matter protesters who deemed that as a slave trader Colston was no longer worthy of public recognition toppled his

statue and then dumped it into the water of the nearby Avon docks. Subsequently, the damaged statue was recovered, and it will now be placed in a museum and some of the protesters may be charged with criminal damage.

Toppling Colston's statue started a public debate about the desirability of publicly commemorating those who were involved in the slave trade and profited from it.

On 9 June, a statue of Robert Milligan (died 1809) was removed from West India Quay in Tower Hamlets by its owners. He had initiated the construction of these docks and had also owned slaves in Jamaica. On 1 September, the City of London announced a review of its statues of people with links to slavery; the options under consideration include removing them or reinterpreting them.

Campaigners have already called for the removal from Guildhall of the statue (right) of William Beckford (died 1770).



He was twice Lord Mayor of London and made a fortune from the ownership of plantations in the West Indies that were worked by slaves. The following day the City of London primary

school which is named after Sir John Cass (died 1718), another slave trader and philanthropist, announced that it was changing its name and wanted to remove his statue from its premises. The National Trust on 21 September revealed that 93 of its properties have links either with slavery or colonial exploitation, including Ham House in Richmond.

On 27 October, Lucy Worsley, Chief Curator of Historic Royal Palaces (which includes Kensington Palace, Hampton Court and the Tower of London) announced a review of properties with links to the slave trade. During the 18th century British colonies in the West Indies used slave labour shipped from Africa to produce cane sugar and rum. It has been argued that this inhumane, but highly profitable, trade financed the Industrial Revolution and the construction of many country houses and parts of some royal palaces.

Today, we find the concept of slavery repulsive, but we must remember that many of our ancestors accepted it. In their eyes the profits it generated justified the terrible exploitation involved. Public opinion changed however and in 1834 slavery was abolished in most (but not all) British controlled territories.

The home of Winston Churchill (died 1965) at Chartwell in Kent was included in the National Trust's list of properties with links to colonialism and his statue near Parliament has been repeatedly vandalised by protesters. He was Secretary of State for the Colonies in the 1920s, opposed Indian

independence in the 1930s and was Prime Minister during the Bengal Famine in 1943, when little was done to prevent mass starvation. He is best remembered as Prime Minister during World War II, when he worked tirelessly to end the Nazi domination of Europe. In 2002 he topped the BBC poll of 100 Greatest Britons. Yet his reputation is now controversial.

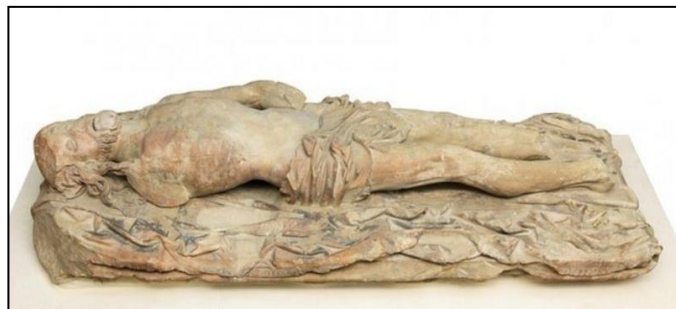
In November there was a call to remove the monument to Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Picton, who perished in 1815 at the Battle of Waterloo, from St Paul's Cathedral. While serving as governor of the West Indian colony of Trinidad (1797-1803), he ordered the torture of a 14-year-old girl suspected of theft. This was a crime for which he was tried and found guilty (the conviction being later overturned). The call for his removal was prompted by a new survey of the cathedral's monuments. In June, the Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby stated that church monuments and statues must be put in a contemporary context: "some will have to come down, some will have to change..."

Is he aware that in 1547-48 state-sponsored Protestant iconoclasts (breakers of images) stripped England's churches of sacred statues or 'graven images' (depending on your point of view)?

Those who objected to this outbreak of iconoclasm concealed many religious statues to save them from destruction. Today we have no ideological objection to the public display of these concealed statues, some of which have been accidentally rediscovered.

For example, during the 1954 redevelopment of the Mercers' Company Chapel in the City of London (destroyed during the Blitz) a quality, life-size, sculpture (c. 1500-20) of the dead Christ (below) was discovered under its floor. It probably formed part of a group mourning the dead Christ and appeared in the 2013-14 Tate Britain *Art Under Attack: Histories of British Iconoclasm* exhibition. Our current iconographical debate is about

secular, historical figures being publicly judged as either good or bad by contemporary moral standards so, while the ideological basis of the iconography debate has shifted since the 1540s



from 'true and false images', the passions involved have not changed.

*Bruce Watson*

Postscript: in the forthcoming edition of *LAMAS Transactions* there is an article on the street names of Camden Town with slave trade connections; some of these named individuals profited from the trade, and others opposed it.



## London anti-slavery campaigner remembered

Ottibah Cugoano (c. 1757- after 1791) was a West African who, at the age of 13, was kidnapped, enslaved and then shipped to the West Indies, where he toiled on a plantation. In 1772 he was purchased by an English Merchant



and moved to London, where he was freed. Subsequently, he was employed as a servant by the artists Richard and Maria Cosway (left, with Ottibah), who lived at 80-82 Pall Mall in central London. Ottibah joined an abolitionist group, the ‘Sons of Africa’, and in 1787 he published: *Thoughts and Sentiments on the Evil and Wicked Traffic of the*

*Slavery and Commerce of the Human Species*. He argued for the abolition of slavery and immediate emancipation of all slaves. His life is now commemorated by an English Heritage blue plaque at 80-82 Pall Mall.

*Bruce Watson*

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## LAMAS Lates Zooms off to find the Earl’s Sluice

Following the success of the first **LAMAS Lates-by-Zoom** walk along London Wall in August (*Newsletter*, September 2020), Stephanie Ostrich chose Wednesday 16 September to lead a LAMAS party of about forty virtual walkers from London and beyond on a search for one of London’s lost rivers: the Earl’s Sluice.

Stephanie, currently project officer for Southwark Borough Council, is working on the Walworth Heritage Action Zone project and has become immersed in the history and heritage of the borough. Steph is well known to many of us in LAMAS from her previous roles with the Thames Discovery Project and CITiZAN.

It’s tricky to know how to give a virtual tour – do you just provide the history and interesting detail on the subject matter, or try to give the geographic dimension too? Steph opted for the latter, giving everyone a good idea of where the river ran, and how it can be traced on the modern street grid of Southwark, using modern and historic maps, and modern photos. Hopefully, in better times, some of us will be able to walk the route in person.

Steph started off with which Earl is the sluice actually named for – the origins go back to the eleventh century; it was named for Robert, who was Lord of the manors of Camberwell and Peckham, and a key figure in one of the greatest English conflicts of the medieval period, the Anarchy.

Robert Fitzroy, was the bastard son of Henry I, the third son of William the Conqueror. He was born some time before 1100, at Caen in France, where he eventually became Constable, or governor, and is quoted as being ‘a

man of proved talent and admirable wisdom'. He married Mabel Fitzhammon, who brought him the lands of Gloucester and his father created him Earl of Gloucester sometime after the famous White Ship disaster of 1120, where King Henry's only legitimate son William was drowned in a storm off the coast of Normandy.

If Robert had been legitimate, he would have become king, and the great struggle for the crown between Henry's legitimate daughter, Matilda, and her cousin Stephen of Blois would never have happened.

The Earl's Sluice is a neglected and forgotten stream in south London, sometimes known as the Black Ditch. It marks the parish boundary line between St Paul's, Deptford and St Mary's, Rotherhithe, and until 1889 formed the boundary line between Kent and Surrey.

It rises in Ruskin Park, Denmark Hill, on the site of the former home of



Victorian polymath, John Ruskin. The sluice is now largely lost and buried below ground but Steph took us through Camberwell, down across the Old Kent Road at the location known as St Thomas a Watering,

famous as the spot where Geoffrey Chaucer's pilgrims stopped on their journey from London Bridge to Canterbury (above). The stream then merges with the River Peck and continues past Millwall football ground, joining the Thames at St Georges Stairs close to the old Greenland Dock, where London's once-great whaling fleet was based.

One of the highlights of Steph's talk and discussion afterwards was the possibility of using the Victorian 'stink pipes' jutting above ground (right) as a guide to the route of the Sluice, which is now culverted and diverted into the Earl Main Sewer. Our well-informed membership led to a discussion over the variety of stink pipes to be found in London, their local colours and names!

*Jane Sidell*



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## Central London YAC Zooms in on Halloween.

Our Zoom meeting on 31 October had a Halloween theme and, as our members were unable to indulge in the usual spooky high jinks due to COVID restrictions, we suggested that they might like to dress up.

They didn't disappoint us. We began with an introduction to the origins



of Halloween, going back to the ancient pagan festival of Samhain, followed many centuries later by Pope Gregory III's introduction of All Saints Day which was preceded by All Hallows Eve. We then had a quick look at Mexico's colourful Day of the Dead celebrations.

We examined stunning examples of Memento Mori jewellery, learned about its meaning and origin, and how its cultural influence is referenced in today's Goth and Emo cultures.

This was followed by a short session on witch bottles. We learned about their purpose, their somewhat gruesome contents, and how archaeologists find them in liminal places such as hearths, thresholds, ditches and on the foreshore. One relatively modern example found on the foreshore was a pill bottle containing teeth, nails, hair, a phial of clove oil and two coins which enabled archeologists to date its deposition to 1982 or later. Another unsettling example is on display at the Pitt Rivers Museum in Oxford, donated by an elderly lady, who said "There's a witch in it and never open it or there'll be a peck of trouble". To this day the bottle has never been opened!

We couldn't let Halloween pass without reference to skeletons, so we learned how archaeologists treat human remains with respect when they find them. We looked at the role of osteologists and what the close examination of a skeleton can tell us about the life (and possibly death) of the person it belonged to.

We learned what an ossuary is, "visited" the ossuary at St. Leonard's Church in Hythe, the amazing Church of Bones in the Czech Republic, and the Paris Catacombs, and were amazed by the massive, ornate displays of bones at these locations.

Finally, we finished with a true spooky story with an archaeological theme about ghostly Roman soldiers at Treasurer's House in York, now a National Trust Property. If you didn't know this strange tale you can find out more here: it certainly makes you think!



<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/features/by-the-look-of-you-youve-seen-the-romans>

For a craft activity some members made skull lanterns out of milk cartons while others decorated skull tea-light holders (previous page), and made masks.

We agreed that a spookily good time had been had by all.

*Annie de Saulles*

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**Victoria Tower Gardens: The prehistory, creation and planned destruction of a London park**, by Dorian Gerhold (2020), 64 pages, 71 illustrations. Available from the author at 19 Montserrat Road, London SW15 2ED, price £12.00 inc p&p (dgerhold@hotmail.co.uk).

In January 2015 David Cameron accepted the recommendations of a Holocaust Commission suggesting the building of a Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre in London.

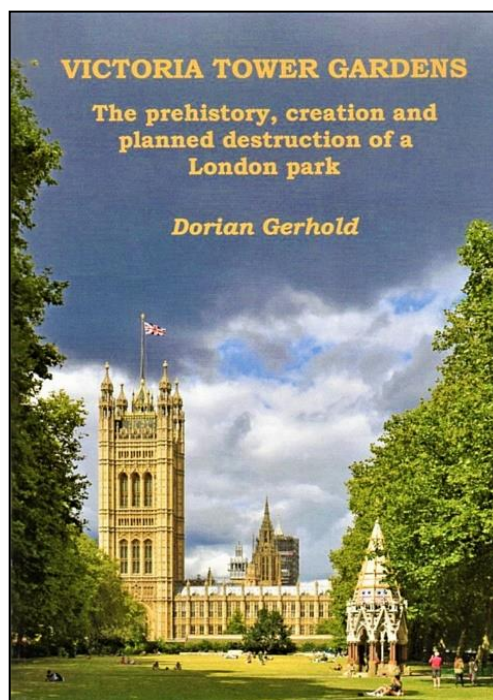
In September 2016 the site in Victoria Tower Gardens, the triangle of grass with avenues of plane trees south of the Houses of Parliament, was chosen.

In October 2017 the design competition was won by Adjaye and Ron Arad. The design of above-ground bronze fins and a below-ground education centre will affect the park and its facilities.

This proposal has been deeply controversial and in 2020 a Public Inquiry was decided upon. This lasted five weeks in October and November 2020. One unintended benefit of our present confined period is that the Inquiry was held online, and anybody could watch it; I did, for the final four days. It was an education.

Dorian Gerhold, in this angry attack on the scheme (the title says it all) lays out the history and archaeology of the site. Until the late 16<sup>th</sup> century, there was only the river bank south of the medieval Palace. Then until clearance in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, wharves and commercial buildings; a typical London Thames-side sequence. The present Gardens were created in two stages, the first prompted by the newspaper retailer WH Smith, MP. A sandpit was a great success (and continues today). Monuments were placed in the Gardens: the Burghers of Calais by Rodin, a Gothic drinking fountain in memory of Thomas Buxton, a leader of the anti-slavery campaign, and Emmeline Pankhurst. They will be accommodated, and do not help any discussion.

I will not detail the often-passionate arguments on both sides, so that this review is not accused of bias. I give one example of each. A great-



grandmother said she supported the scheme ‘as I am a Holocaust survivor and will not be here in a few weeks’ time’. Rowan Williams said the scheme was wrong to juxtapose this monument (which all agree is worth doing, somewhere) with Westminster: anti-Semitism bad, British democracy good. In excessively polite language between lawyers, arguments raged about whether there would be dangers from flooding or terrorists. By all accounts this was like no other Public Inquiry. We await the Inspector’s decision, and then that of the Secretary of State (which could be different, as recently at Stonehenge).

The archaeology is actually a minor matter. Excavation, if the scheme goes ahead, will be straightforward, if on the expensive side. It is refreshing to note that both sides of the argument accepted the archaeological requirements without question; this might not have been the case thirty years ago. We have matured.

While we wait, Dorian Gerhold’s slim book is recommended as another of his typically thorough studies of a patch of London topography, and especially as a souvenir of a passionate and contested dispute. What happens about the Holocaust Memorial is important for us and for generations to come.

*John Schofield*

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## **EVENTS AND EXHIBITIONS**

### **Gresham College lectures**

#### **Royal Restoration: Estates of the Duke of Monmouth**

**Wednesday 17 March 2021 6.00pm-7.00pm online**

and afterwards via website

(or Museum of London - check Gresham website).

Lecture by Simon Thurley, Provost of Gresham College.

Charles II’s illegitimate son, the Duke of Monmouth, became one of the most influential and powerful men at the Restoration court. He married a Scottish heiress, Anne Scott, and together they became leaders of fashion and taste. Recent research has revealed that the Duke and Duchess were major patrons of architecture, leaving some important, but little known, buildings to posterity.

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## **AFFILIATED SOCIETY MEETINGS**

*Owing to the disruptive effects of COVID-19, readers are advised to check with local societies before planning visits to lectures*

### **Acton History Group**

Events are normally held on the second Wednesday in the month at 7.30pm in St Mary’s Parish Church Hall, but because of the COVID-19 pandemic the Group is not able to meet in person at the moment, so it will use Zoom for meetings until it can restart meetings.

**13 January 2021, 7.30pm**

Speaker and arrangements to be advised

**10 February 2021, 7.30pm**

Speaker and arrangements to be advised

**10 March 2021, 7.30pm**

Speaker and arrangements to be advised

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**Barking and District Historical Society**

Meetings held on Mondays at 7.45pm at Harp House, 16 Helmore Road (off Goodey Road), Barking, IG11 9PH. Free to members. £2.00 to non-members.

Telephone 020 8597 7210. Email: [barkinghistorical@hotmail.com](mailto:barkinghistorical@hotmail.com); website:

[www.barkinghistoricalsociety.co.uk](http://www.barkinghistoricalsociety.co.uk)

**No information currently available on website**

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**Barnes and Mortlake History Society**

Meetings are held on Thursdays at St Mary's Parish Church, Barnes, at 8pm. The meetings are free for members (£2 for visitors). For further details please contact the Hon. Secretary on 020 8878 3756 or visit us at [www.barnes-history.org.uk](http://www.barnes-history.org.uk)

Please note that while government restrictions apply the numbers attending will be limited, and it will be necessary to book in advance. Details will be posted on the website nearer the time.

**21 January 2021**

**Forgotten Boys of the Sea: Marine Society Merchant Apprentices 1772-1873,**  
Caroline Withall

**18 February 2021**

**Social Change on the Queen's Road, Richmond,** Charles Pineles

**18 March 2021**

**All Saints Church, East Sheen, 8pm**

**AGM followed by The Great Stink and Super Sewers,** Julie Chandler

**15 April 2021**

**St Mary the Virgin, Mortlake, 8.00pm**

**Thomas Cromwell: New Perspectives,** Diarmaid MacCulloch

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**Barnet Museum and Local History Society**

All meetings are held in Church House, Wood Street, Barnet at 3pm on Mondays (opposite the Museum). Lectures are free for members (£3 for visitors). Contact

Barnet Museum, 31 Wood Street, Barnet EN5 4BE (020 8440 8066) or visit:

[www.barnetmuseum.co.uk](http://www.barnetmuseum.co.uk) for more information.

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### **Bexley Archaeological Group**

All talks are held bi-monthly in the BSCC, 19 Station Road, Sidcup, Kent, DA15 7EB, 8pm for 8.15pm start. Excavations are carried out at weekends (March-November), in which membership is required to participate on site. For further information, please contact Pip Pulfer – *Principal Field Officer*: [principalfieldofficer@bag.org.uk](mailto:principalfieldofficer@bag.org.uk) or Clare Lodge – *Public Relations Coordinator* – [pr@bag.org.uk](mailto:pr@bag.org.uk) or visit our website – [www.bag.org.uk](http://www.bag.org.uk)

**No information currently available on website**

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### **Bromley Borough Local History Society**

The Society meets once a month from September to July, usually on the first Tuesday of the month. Meetings are held at 7.45pm in the Small Hall at the Trinity United Reformed Church, on the corner of Freeland Road and Upper Park Road in Bromley. The post code is BR1 3AQ. The Society's website is: [www.bblhs.org.uk](http://www.bblhs.org.uk)

**No information currently available on website**

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### **Camden History Society**

The society normally meets at 7.30pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month, except August. Venues vary; non-members welcome (£2). For further information please contact the Chair, Malcolm Holmes (01923 461343), [malcolmholmes@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:malcolmholmes@yahoo.co.uk), or visit: [www.camdenhistorysociety.org](http://www.camdenhistorysociety.org)

**All forthcoming talks and events postponed**

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### **Camden New Town History Group**

Camden New Town is north of Camden Town, in the London Borough of Camden. Meetings of this group of local residents are generally held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at the Irish Centre in Camden Square.  
email: [maillist@camdennewtown.info](mailto:maillist@camdennewtown.info); website: [www.camdennewtown.info](http://www.camdennewtown.info)

**No information currently available on website**

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### **Chadwell Heath Historical Society**

Meetings are held at 7.30pm from September to June. All meetings are held at the Baptist Church Hall, High Road, Chadwell Heath, RM6 6PP. Visitors welcome £2 pp. Enquiries: 020 8590 4659/020 8597 7210; email: [chadwellheathhistsoc@hotmail.com](mailto:chadwellheathhistsoc@hotmail.com)

**No information currently available on website**

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### **City of London Archaeological Society**

Lectures are normally on the third Friday in every month and take place at St Olave's Church, Hart Street, London EC3R 7NB. Doors open 6.30pm for 7pm start, followed by light refreshments and an opportunity to socialise. Non-members are welcome to attend lectures but are asked to make a £3 contribution to expenses. For further information see [www.colas.org.uk](http://www.colas.org.uk); email: [web-enquiry@colas.org.uk](mailto:web-enquiry@colas.org.uk)

**No information currently available on website**

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### **Docklands History Group**

The Docklands History Group meets on the first Wednesday of each month, except January, at the Museum of London Docklands, West India Quay, Hertsmere Road, E14 4AL. Meetings start at 5.30 for 6pm and finish at 8pm. Visitors are welcome (£2). For further details see: [www.docklandshistorygroup.org.uk](http://www.docklandshistorygroup.org.uk)

**The first meeting in 2021 is likely to be in April.**

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### **East London History Society**

All meetings are held at Latimer Congregational Church Hall, Ernest Street, E1 unless otherwise stated. Ernest Street is between Harford Street and White Horse Lane, off Mile End Road (opposite Queen Mary and Westfield College). Meetings start at 7:30pm. The nearest underground stations are Mile End and Stepney Green. Buses: 25, 205, 339 to Queen Mary College and D6, D7, 277, 323, 339, 425 to Mile End Station. Website: <http://www.mernick.org.uk/elhs/index>  
email: [mail@eastlondonhistory.org.uk](mailto:mail@eastlondonhistory.org.uk)

**No information currently available on website**

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### **Edmonton Hundred Historical Society**

Talks are free to members (£1 for visitors), and are held at Jubilee Hall, 2 Parsonage Lane, Enfield; at the All Saints Church Hall, Church Street, Edmonton N9 and at Bruce Castle, Lordship Lane, Tottenham N17. Further details from Enfield Local Studies Centre & Archive, Thomas Hardy House, 39 London Road, Enfield EN2 6DS (020 8379 2839); email: [info@edmontonhundred.org.uk](mailto:info@edmontonhundred.org.uk); website: <http://n21.net/edmonton-hundred-historical-society.html>

**No information currently available on website**

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### **The Eltham Society**

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings take place at 8.00pm at the Christchurch Centre, Eltham High Street. Refreshments available from 7.30pm before the talk. Non-members £2.00.

email: [contact@theelthamsociety.org.uk](mailto:contact@theelthamsociety.org.uk); website: [www.theelthamsociety.org.uk](http://www.theelthamsociety.org.uk)

**No meetings until further notice**

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### **EMAS Archaeological Society**

A number of events are organised. Lectures are free to EMAS and LAMAS members, £3 for visitors. For details of membership and specific events, please visit the EMAS website: [emas-archaeology.org](http://emas-archaeology.org). Details of the study tour to Orkney from 14 to 23 April 2020 may be found on the EMAS website.

**16 April 2021 at 7.00pm**

Clore Learning Centre, Museum of London

**A Viking Age Funeral**, David Beard

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### **Enfield Archaeological Society**

Meetings are held at the Jubilee Hall, junction of Chase Side and Parsonage Lane, Enfield, starting at 8.00pm (doors open at 7.30pm). Visitors: £1 per person. For further information please contact Ms Val Mundy, 88 Gordon Hill, Enfield, EN2 0QS. Email [valmunday@hotmail.com](mailto:valmunday@hotmail.com), website: [www.enfarchsoc.org](http://www.enfarchsoc.org)

**AGM cancelled and all lecture meetings suspended**

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### **Friends of Bruce Castle Museum and Park**

Evening talks are last Wednesday of the month, 7.00pm for 7.30pm start. Munch and Listen talks are on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month, 12.00pm for 12.15pm start. Talks are free and open to all (tea/coffee is available for a small charge). All meetings are held at Bruce Castle Museum, Lordship Lane, Tottenham, N17 8NU. Details of the programme are available from [www.haringey.gov.uk/brucecastlemuseum](http://www.haringey.gov.uk/brucecastlemuseum) or the FoBC Secretary at Bruce Castle Museum (020 8808 8772). Car park on site.

**No information currently available on website**

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### **The Friends of the City Churches**

The Friends of the City Churches is an architectural heritage charity dedicated to preserving the beautiful and unique churches found within the square mile of the City of London. Its aim is to ensure that the City's churches are preserved intact for posterity and, most importantly, are kept open to visitors on a regular basis. In conjunction with the Archdeaconry of the City of London, The Friends of the City Churches publishes the *City Events* broadsheet, copies of which can be found in most City churches, libraries and the City Information Office. Enquiries about particular events should be addressed to the venue concerned. Downloads of *City Events* are available from the The Friends of the City Churches website, which is: [www.london-city-churches.org.uk/](http://www.london-city-churches.org.uk/)

**All events for members have had to be postponed until further notice**

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### **The Friends of Hackney Archives**

Meetings, talks and walks are arranged from time to time. For information about the activities of Friends of Hackney Archives, email: [archives@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:archives@hackney.gov.uk); Friends' website, listing events etc: [www.hackneyhistory.org](http://www.hackneyhistory.org); telephone: 020 7241 2886.

**No information currently available on website**

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### **The Friends of Kensal Green Cemetery**

For information about the activities of Friends of Kensal Green Cemetery, email: [fokgc@hotmail.com](mailto:fokgc@hotmail.com); website: [www.kensalgreen.co.uk](http://www.kensalgreen.co.uk)

The Friends of Kensal Green offer a two-hour introductory tour of the cemetery every Sunday from the beginning of March to the end of October, and the first and third Sunday only in November, December, January and February. Tours begin at 14:00 from the Anglican Chapel in the centre of the grounds, and finish around two hours later with tea and biscuits at the Dissenters' Chapel, adjacent to Ladbroke Grove. There is no need to book regular Sunday tours, except for groups of more than ten. A suggested donation of £7 per person (concessions £5) helps the Friends to restore monuments, study the cemetery and attract visitors to Kensal Green.

**No events currently scheduled**

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### **Friern Barnet & District Local History Society**

Meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month (no meetings in July and August) at The North Middlesex Golf Club, The Manor House, Friern Barnet Lane, Whetstone N20 0NL, starting at 7.45pm for 8.00pm. Non-members are welcome (£2). Refreshments are available. Email: [friern-barnethistory@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:friern-barnethistory@hotmail.co.uk); website: [www.friern-barnethistory.org.uk](http://www.friern-barnethistory.org.uk). For further details contact David Berguer on 020 8368 8314.

**No meetings for the foreseeable future**

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### **Fulham and Hammersmith Historical Society**

There is usually a talk or a visit once a month. Visits are made to places of historic interest both within and outside the borough at varying times. For information about the activities of Fulham and Hammersmith Historical Society, visit the Society's website: <https://fhhs.wordpress.com/>

**No information currently available on website**

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### **Harefield History Society**

Meetings are held at the Park Lane Village Centre, Park Lane, Harefield UB9 6BJ at 8.00pm on the fourth Monday of the month from September to May. Outings and other events are also arranged. Website: [www.harefieldhistorysociety.co.uk](http://www.harefieldhistorysociety.co.uk)

**Meetings will be resumed when it is safe to do so**

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### **Hayes & Harlington Local History Society**

Most meetings are held at Botwell Green Library, Leisure Centre, East Avenue, Hayes UB3 3HW at 7.30pm. The library closes to the public at 7pm and you are advised to arrive by 7.25pm for admittance and guidance to the first floor meeting room. Non-members are welcome. Further information from Mr Robin Brown, 107 Wentworth Crescent, Hayes, Middlesex UB3 1NP (020 8848 7959). Email: [hayescanal@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:hayescanal@hotmail.co.uk)

**No information currently available on website**

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### **Hendon & District Archaeological Society**

Lectures are held on Tuesdays at Stephens House & Gardens (Avenue House), 17 East End Road, Finchley, N3 3QE, and start promptly at 8.00 pm, with coffee / tea afterwards. Non-members admission: £2. Buses 13, 125, 143, 326 & 460 pass nearby and Finchley Central station (Northern Line), is a 5-10 minute walk away. For further information see the website: [www.hadas.org.uk](http://www.hadas.org.uk)

**No information currently available on website**

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### **Hornsey Historical Society**

Lecture meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month at the Union Church Hall, corner of Ferme Park Road and Weston Park, starting at 8.00pm. A donation of £2.00 is requested from non-members. Refreshments are available from 7:40 pm. The doors close at 8:00 pm and latecomers are not admitted. For further information please ring The Old Schoolhouse (020 8348 8429); write to the Society at 136 Tottenham Lane N8 7EL; website: [www.hornseyhistorical.org.uk](http://www.hornseyhistorical.org.uk)

**No meetings currently planned**

### **Hounslow and District History Society**

During the pandemic all presentations will be made remotely over the internet, hosted by the Hounslow and District History Society, using Zoom. All members for whom it has an email address will be invited to join these sessions.

**26 January 2021**

**The Farnell Family and Isleworth Brewery**, Christine Diwell

**23 February 2021**

**London's Victorians at Leisure**, Ian Bevan

**30 March 2021**

**Hayes: the music capital of the world**, Joanna Hughes

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### **Islington Archaeology & History Society**

Meetings are held on Wednesdays at 7.30pm at Islington Town Hall, Upper Street N1. A donation of £1 is requested from non-members. Enquiries: 020 7833 1541; website: [www.islingtonhistory.org.uk](http://www.islingtonhistory.org.uk)

**No information currently available on website**

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### **Kent Archaeological Rescue Unit**

Crofton Roman Villa, Orpington, BR6 8AF. Telephone: 01689 860939. Email: [crofton.roman.villa@gmail.com](mailto:crofton.roman.villa@gmail.com). Website: <http://cka.moon-demon.co.uk>

**No information currently available on website**

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### **Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society**

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at 8pm at Surbiton Library Halls, Ewell Road, Surbiton. Visitors will be asked for a donation of £2 towards expenses. Enquiries to Hon Secretary KUTAS, 21 Duffins Orchard, Brox Road, Ottershaw, Surrey, KT16 0LP, email: [kutas.archaeology@gmail.com](mailto:kutas.archaeology@gmail.com), website: [www.kingstonarchaeology.org](http://www.kingstonarchaeology.org)

**All meetings postponed until further notice**

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### **Lewisham Local History Society**

Meetings are held on Fridays at St Dunstan's College Jubilee Pavilion, Canadian Avenue, London SE6 4SW (NEW VENUE), starting at 7:45pm unless otherwise stated. Visitors welcomed, donation of £1 invited.

For further information please contact Programme Secretary Tamsin Bacchus at [tamsin\\_bacchus@hotmail.com](mailto:tamsin_bacchus@hotmail.com); website: [www.lewishamhistory.org.uk](http://www.lewishamhistory.org.uk)

**Lecture programme cancelled until further notice**

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### **London Natural History Society**

Indoor meetings usually consist of talks, slide shows or discussions. Visitors are welcome. A charge may be made on the door. For further information please visit website: [www.lnhs.org.uk](http://www.lnhs.org.uk)

**Indoor and outdoor events cancelled until further notice**

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### **Merton Historical Society**

Meetings are held monthly from October until April, at 2.30pm on Saturday afternoons at St James' Church Hall, Martin Way, Merton. For further information please contact the Honorary Secretary, Mrs Rosemary Turner, 27 Burley Close, London SW16 4QQ; email: mhs@mertonhistoricalsociety.org.uk; website: www.mertonhistoricalsociety.org.uk. Walks and visits are held during the summer.

### **Meetings and visits suspended until further notice**

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### **The Norwood Society**

Local history talks are held on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7.30pm at the Upper Norwood Library, Westow Hill SE19 1TJ. Entry is free, but a donation of £3 towards the cost of tea and homemade cakes would be much appreciated. For all enquiries please contact Ruth Hibberd at: membership@norwoodsociety.co.uk; website: www.norwoodsociety.co.uk

### **Walks and talks postponed**

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### **Orpington and District Archaeological Society**

Meetings are held in Christ Church (United Reformed), Tudor Way, Petts Wood, BR5 1LH, on the first Wednesday of each month (except August and January) from 8.00pm. Non-members are welcome to attend, space permitting. For further information please contact Michael Meekums or Janet Clayton (020 8302 1572); website: www.odas.org.uk

### **Meetings by Zoom for members only**

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### **Pinner Local History Society**

All meetings start at 8.00pm. Main meetings take place in the Village Hall, Pinner. Visitors are welcome for a donation of £3. For further information please contact: Mrs J Brooks, 224 The Ridgeway, North Harrow, Middlesex HA2 7DB (020 8424 8445); website: www.pinnerlhs.org.uk

### **All talks cancelled**

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### **Potters Bar and District Historical Society**

Meetings are held in the 60 Plus Room, Wyllyotts Centre, Potters Bar, Herts, starting at 8.00pm prompt. Visitors are welcome (admission £1). For further details please visit the website: <http://www.pottersbarhistory.uk>

### **No information currently available on website**

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### **Richmond Archaeological Society**

All lectures take place on the 2nd Friday of every month at the Vestry Rooms, Paradise Road, Richmond, Surrey at 8:00pm, and are free to members. Non-members are welcome to attend by giving a donation. *Lectures are currently by Zoom and for members.* For further information please visit the website: [www.richmondarchaeology.org.uk](http://www.richmondarchaeology.org.uk). Email: richmond.archaeology@gmail.com

### **8 January 2021**

Subject and speaker to be confirmed



**12 February 2021**

**Beyond Repair: An archaeology of mending and modification in Iron Age Britain**, Helen Chittock

**12 March 2021**

**The Late Upper Palaeolithic in Britain**, Sophy Charlton

**16 April 2021**

**Recording the Archaeology of Richmond Park 30 Years Ago**, Tom Greeves

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**Richmond Local History Society**

Meetings are held on Mondays, if possible at Duke Street Church, Richmond, TW9 1DH at 8.00pm, or alternatively by Zoom. Further information from the Secretary, Elizabeth Velluet (020 8891 3825); email: rich.hist@yahoo.co.uk; website: [www.richmondhistory.org.uk](http://www.richmondhistory.org.uk)

**11 January 2021**

**Nellie Ionides and Orleans House**, Minna Andersen

**8 February 2021**

**Middle class housing 1870-1914 with a focus on Kew and Chiswick**, Dr Caroline Withall

**8 March 2021**

**Five acres, one rood and four perches: the early history of Kew's Lawn Crescent**, Stephen Bartlett

**19 April 2021**

**The gardens of Twickenham Park**, Andrew George

**17 May 2021**

**AGM and Artists and paintings in Richmond, Twickenham and Kew**, Jane Short

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**Rotherhithe & Bermondsey Local History Society**

Unless otherwise stated, meetings take place at the Time and Talents Settlement, The Old Mortuary, St Marychurch Street, Rotherhithe, SE16 4JD, and begin at 7.15pm. Non-members welcome for a donation of £2. For more information please visit [www.rbhistory.org.uk](http://www.rbhistory.org.uk)

**Events currently suspended**

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**Ruislip, Northwood and Eastcote Local History Society**

Meetings are usually held on the third Monday of each month from September to April at 8.15 pm at St Martins Church Hall, High Street, Ruislip. Visitors are welcome (£2 admission). For further information, please contact the Membership Secretary ([membership@rnelhs.uk](mailto:membership@rnelhs.uk)) or the Programme Secretary ([programme@rnelhs.uk](mailto:programme@rnelhs.uk)) or look at the website [www.RNELHS.org.uk](http://www.RNELHS.org.uk)

Owing to the COVID-19 situation, it is anticipated that all of the meetings this season will have to be held virtually via Zoom. Online meetings will start at 8.00pm on the dates in the programme. For further information and updates about our plans for meetings please visit our website, [www.RNELHS.org.uk](http://www.RNELHS.org.uk).

**18 January 2021**

**Bess of Hardwick**, Louise Henshaw

**15 February 2021**

**Cliveden and The Astors, Cliveden National Trust Talks Service**

**15 March 2021**

**'In this Heathe hath many campes bin pitched': The West London Landscape Project in context, Jon Cotton**

**19 April 2021**

**1066: The Siege, Surrender and Triumph of London, Kathleen Tyson**

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### **Southgate District Civic Voice**

The not for profit organisation covers Southgate, New Southgate, Cockfosters, Palmers Green, Winchmore Hill and Hadley Wood. Open Meetings are held twice a year at the Walker Hall, Waterfall Road, Southgate, and Local History meetings are held five times a year at the Friends Meeting House, Church Hill, Winchmore Hill. Non-members are welcome. For further information, contact Colin Barratt (020 8882 2246); email [info@southgatedistrictcivicvoice.org](mailto:info@southgatedistrictcivicvoice.org) or visit [www.southgatedistrictcivicvoice.org](http://www.southgatedistrictcivicvoice.org)

**The following meeting will take place by Zoom or in a hall:**

**Saturday 27 March 2021 at 2.30pm**

**150 years of the Great Northern Railway opening its Wood Green-Enfield branch through Palmers Green and Winchmore Hill, Dave Cockle**

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### **Southwark & Lambeth Archaeological Society**

Lectures are held monthly on the second Tuesday at 7.30pm at the Housing Cooperative, 106 The Cut SE1, (direct entrance from the raised walkway), almost opposite the Old Vic. Coffee or tea and biscuits are available from 7.00 pm. Visitors are welcome but are asked to contribute £1 towards expenses. For further details please contact Richard Buchanan, 79 Ashridge Crescent, Shooter's Hill, London SE18 3EA; email: [RichardJBuchanan@aol.com](mailto:RichardJBuchanan@aol.com). For enquiries please call 020 8764 8314.

**No information currently available**

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### **Spelthorne Archaeology and Local History Group**

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings take place at the Methodist Church, Thames Street, Staines, and begin at 8.00pm. Members free, non members welcome (£2 please). For further details please contact Nick Pollard (01932 564585); email: [npollard@spelthornemuseum.org.uk](mailto:npollard@spelthornemuseum.org.uk); website: [www.spelthornemuseum.org.uk](http://www.spelthornemuseum.org.uk)

**All talks and Annual General Meeting postponed until further notice**

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### **Stanmore and Harrow Historical Society**

Meetings are held at the Wealdstone Baptist Church, High Road, Wealdstone, at 8.00pm on Wednesdays, excluding July and August (visitors welcome at a charge of £3). For further information please contact The Secretary, [info@Stanmore-Harrow-Historical.org.uk](mailto:info@Stanmore-Harrow-Historical.org.uk); [www.stanmore-harrow-historical.org.uk](http://www.stanmore-harrow-historical.org.uk)

**All talks postponed until further notice**

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### **Borough of Twickenham Local History Society**

Lectures are held at St Mary's Church Hall, Church Street, Twickenham, at 8.00pm on the first Monday of each month from October to May. Guests are welcome (£2.50). For further information please visit our website: [www.botlhs.co.uk](http://www.botlhs.co.uk)

**No information currently available on website**

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### **Uxbridge Local History and Archive Society**

All meetings take place at Christ Church, Redford Way (off Belmont Road), Uxbridge, starting at 7.30pm. For further information please contact Mr K.R. Pearce, 29 Norton Road, Uxbridge UB8 2PT; website: [www.eddiethecomputer.co.uk/history](http://www.eddiethecomputer.co.uk/history)

**No information currently available on website**

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### **Walthamstow Historical Society**

Talks take place in the Large Hall in the Family Centre, St Gabriel's Church, Havant Road, Walthamstow E17 3JF (just off Wood Street.) at 7.45pm. For General enquiries please write to 55 Highfield Gardens, Aldershot, Hampshire, GU11 3DB; email: [whsenquiries@gmail.com](mailto:whsenquiries@gmail.com); website: [www.walthamstowhistoricalsociety.org.uk](http://www.walthamstowhistoricalsociety.org.uk)

**No information currently available on website**

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### **Wandsworth Historical Society**

Meetings held at the Friends' Meeting House, Wandsworth High Street (opposite Town Hall) on the last Friday of the month at 8.00pm until 9.15pm (followed by tea and biscuits). For more information, visit the website: [www.wandsworthhistory.org.uk](http://www.wandsworthhistory.org.uk)

**All talks are now being held online by Zoom for members only**

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### **West Drayton and District Local History Society**

Meetings are held on the last Tuesday of each month from September until May (excluding December) in St Martin's Church Hall, Church Road, West Drayton, starting at 7.30pm. For further information please contact Kay Tarrant (Programme Secretary), 15 Brooklyn Way, West Drayton UB7 7PD (01895 444246).

**No information currently available**

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### **Willesden Local History Society**

The Society meets on Wednesdays from September to June at 7.30pm in St Mary's Parish Centre, which is in Neasden Lane adjacent to the churchyard. For further information please contact the Secretary, Margaret Pratt, 51 West Ella Road, London NW10 9PT (020 8965 7230); website: [www.willesden-local-history.co.uk](http://www.willesden-local-history.co.uk)

**No information currently available on website**

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**London and Middlesex Archaeological Society**  
**Museum of London, 150 London Wall, London EC2Y 5HN**  
**Telephone: 020 7410 2228 Fax: 0870 444 3853**

**President**

Gillian Tindall  
president@lamas.org.uk

**Chair of Council**

Harvey Sheldon [REDACTED]  
harveysheldon@gmail.com  
[REDACTED]

**Honorary Secretary and  
Honorary Publications Assistant**

Karen Thomas [REDACTED]  
secretary@lamas.org.uk  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Honorary Subscriptions and  
Membership Secretary**

Fiona Haughey  
membership@lamas.org.uk  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Honorary Director of Lecture Meetings**

Kathryn Stubbs [REDACTED]  
lectures@lamas.org.uk

**Honorary Treasurer**

Malcolm Mac Lellan  
treasurer@lamas.org.uk  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Honorary Librarian**

Lluis Tembleque Teres [REDACTED]  
ltembleque@museumoflondon.org.uk  
Museum of London  
150 London Wall  
London EC2Y 5HN

**Honorary Publicity Officer**

Luisa Duarte  
lduarte@museumoflondon.org.uk  
Museum of London  
150 London Wall  
London EC2Y 5HN

**Honorary Editor, *Newsletter***

Richard Gilpin [REDACTED]  
rhbg.lamas@gmail.com  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Archaeology Committee  
Secretary**

Jon Cotton [REDACTED]  
joncotton1956@gmail.com  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Greater London Local History  
Committee Chair**

John Price  
j.price@gold.ac.uk

**Historic Buildings and Conservation  
Committee Secretary**

Vicki Fox  
vickifox2011@hotmail.co.uk

**Publications Committee Chair  
and Reviews Editor, *Transactions***

John Schofield [REDACTED]  
john@jschd.co.uk  
[REDACTED]

**Production Editor, *Transactions***

Trevor Brigham [REDACTED]  
trevbrigham@gmail.com.  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Honorary Archaeological Editor,  
*Transactions***

Bruce Watson  
johnwatson111@talktalk.net

**Honorary History Editor,  
*Transactions***

Maggie Bolton [REDACTED]  
mebolton01732@gmail.com

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