



UNIVERSITY OF
LEICESTER



The Mosaic: *December 2024*

[In This Issue](#)

Welcome to the fourth issue of the School of Archaeology and Ancient History's newsletter '**The Mosaic**'!

This electronic newsletter is published quarterly for staff, students, alumni and the public alike to engage with news, events and updates from across the School of Archaeology and Ancient History (SAAH) community.



Navigate to the different sections below by clicking on the icon in the bottom right, or by scrolling down.

- **Research News**
- **Teaching**
- **Our Campus-based Learners**
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- **Postgraduate Research**
- **Professional Services**
- **Our Alumni - Where are they now?**
- **Our Community**



Next issue: March 2025

Research News

Meet our new Leverhulme Early Career Fellow

Dr Matt Evans

Leverhulme Early Career Fellow - Mobility and Multi-Scalar Power Dynamics in Hellenistic and Roman Ionia



I grew up in a tiny village in Mid Wales and first encountered the ancient world when I was 14, having chosen to study Classical Civilisations at GCSE. I've been hooked ever since. I studied Ancient History (BA) at Cardiff, Classical Archaeology (Mst) at Oxford, and completed a PhD about the history and archaeology of gymnasia at Warwick. I'm an ancient historian and classical archaeologist with a broad interest in the Hellenistic and Roman Aegean. As a Leverhulme Early Career Fellow, my current research aims to identify patterns of short-distance mobility in a dynamic region of Ionia in western Turkey. Specifically, I am working with texts inscribed on stone and utilising machine learning tools to try to identify individual stone cutters. I hope to shed light on the people and processes responsible for creating inscriptions. I am also an active survey archaeologist and I currently work on projects on the Greek islands of Samos and Chios. I like to spend my spare time outside, whether that's playing football, running, or hiking. - **Dr Matt Evans**

[Ritual, rubbish and retrieval in Roman rivers](#)

With all the hype surrounding the release of *Gladiator II*, a Roman knife handle depicting a gladiator hit the news in November. The handle was found by two divers in the River Tyne at Corbridge, Northumberland and was recorded by SAAH's Dr Philippa Walton when she was Finds Liaison Officer for the North East.

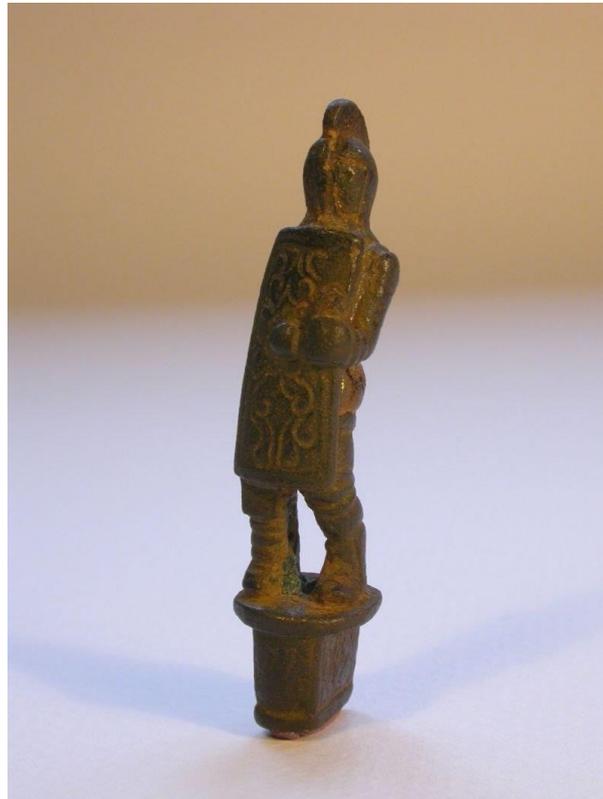
It dates to the 2nd century AD and depicts a gladiator known as a 'secutor' or 'pursuer', whose attributes include a large rectangular shield and low crested helmet with small eye

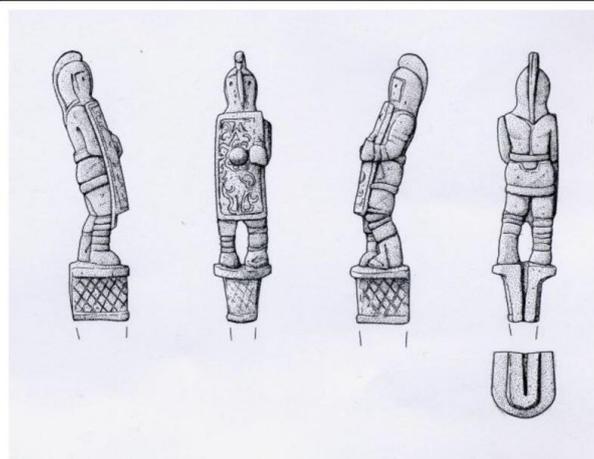
holes. The 'secutor' was traditionally the opponent of the 'retiarius' who held a net and trident. It has been suggested that the secutor's helmet is reminiscent of a fish and that that is why the two types of gladiator were pitted against each other. Despite it being considered unlucky to be left-handed in the Roman world, this 'secutor' is wielding his sword in his left hand. This may suggest it was intended as a souvenir depicting an actual celebrity gladiator fighting in northern Britain!

It's one of a number of objects found in the River Tyne at Corbridge which have recently been donated by the divers to English Heritage. It will feature in an exhibition of riverine archaeology at Corbridge Roman Museum co-curated by Philippa and English Heritage's Dr Frances McIntosh and forms part of her AHRC/DFG project on *Ritual, rubbish and retrieval in Roman rivers*.

To find out more, [take a look at the Portable Antiquities Scheme record here \(link\)](#).

-Dr Philippa Walton





Later Prehistoric Finds Group Online Symposium



1 - Credit: Dr Matt Hitchcock

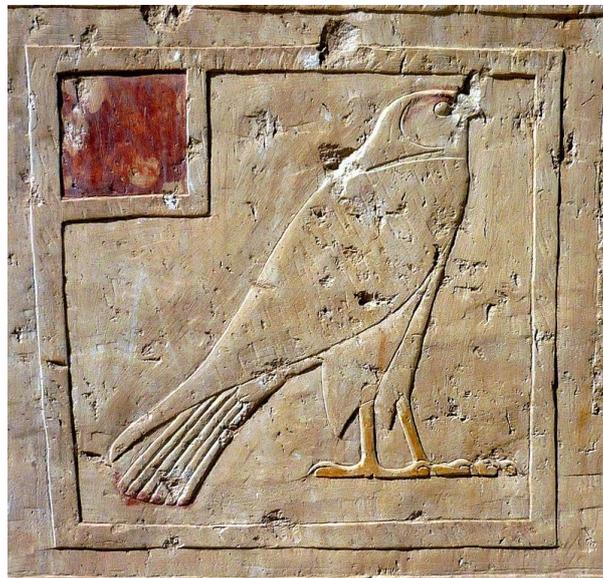
Raptors unwrapped: the exploitation of birds of prey in Late and Ptolemaic Egypt
 Prof Richard Thomas writes about his new Leverhulme award, and exciting plans for the project.

Birds of prey are commonly depicted throughout Ancient Egypt in hieroglyphs and artistic representations. Despite this centrality, scholarly investigation has rarely extended beyond their associations with particular gods, such as the falcon-headed Horus (Figure 1). This partly reflects the fact that there was only one word for small birds of prey - *bik* - and

Egyptologists have continued to group them together, despite major taxonomic, behavioural and ecological differences.

By the Late and Ptolemaic periods (332-30BCE) small birds of prey were being mummified and interred in subterranean catacombs at temples around Egypt at an industrial scale (Figure 2): invasion and unrest in this period had led to a re-energisation of animal cults to bolster national identity.

A new three-year project funded by the Leverhulme Trust – a collaboration between the University of Leicester, the Natural History Museum, Manchester Museum, Nottingham Trent University and SUERC - asks four questions: which raptor species were significant/exploited in Late Period and Ptolemaic Egypt and why? What was the geographic origin of these species? Were raptors wild caught or captive bred? Did human exploitation impact raptor populations?

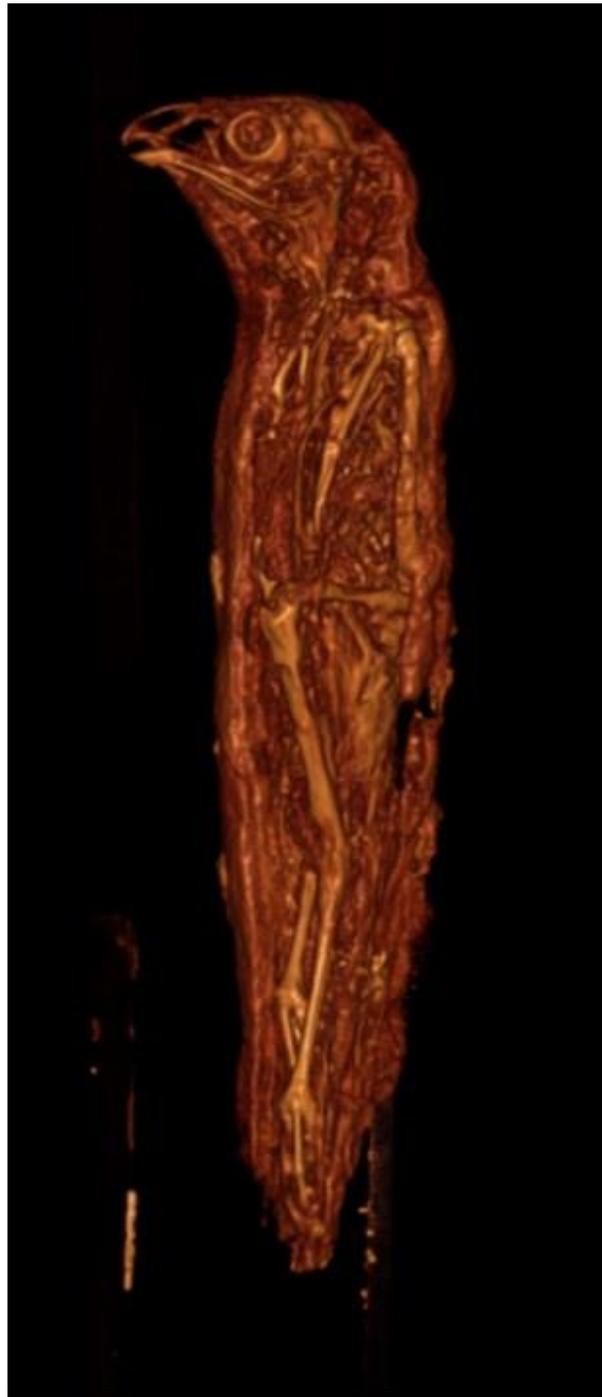


2 - **Figure 1** - Relief of Horus, Hatshepsut temple, Deir el-Bahari, Theban Necropolis, Egypt.
(https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Hatshepsut_temple9c.jpg)

The team will answer these questions by undertaking cutting-edge, scientific analysis of raptor mummies and re-evaluating art historical and textual evidence using knowledge of bird behaviours.



3 - **Figure 2** - Sparrowhawk mummy external and conventional X-ray © Trustees of the Natural History Museum, London



4 - **Figure 3** - Sparrowhawk mummy CT © Trustees of the Natural History Museum, London, and University of Manchester

They will start by examining museum specimens of raptors, to develop new species identification criteria.

Digital imaging will capture high-resolution data of previously unstudied mummies (Figure 3). This will enable us to reconstruct mummification techniques, identify the birds to species and reconstruct individual biographies, including by identifying pathologies associated with wild capture and captive breeding.

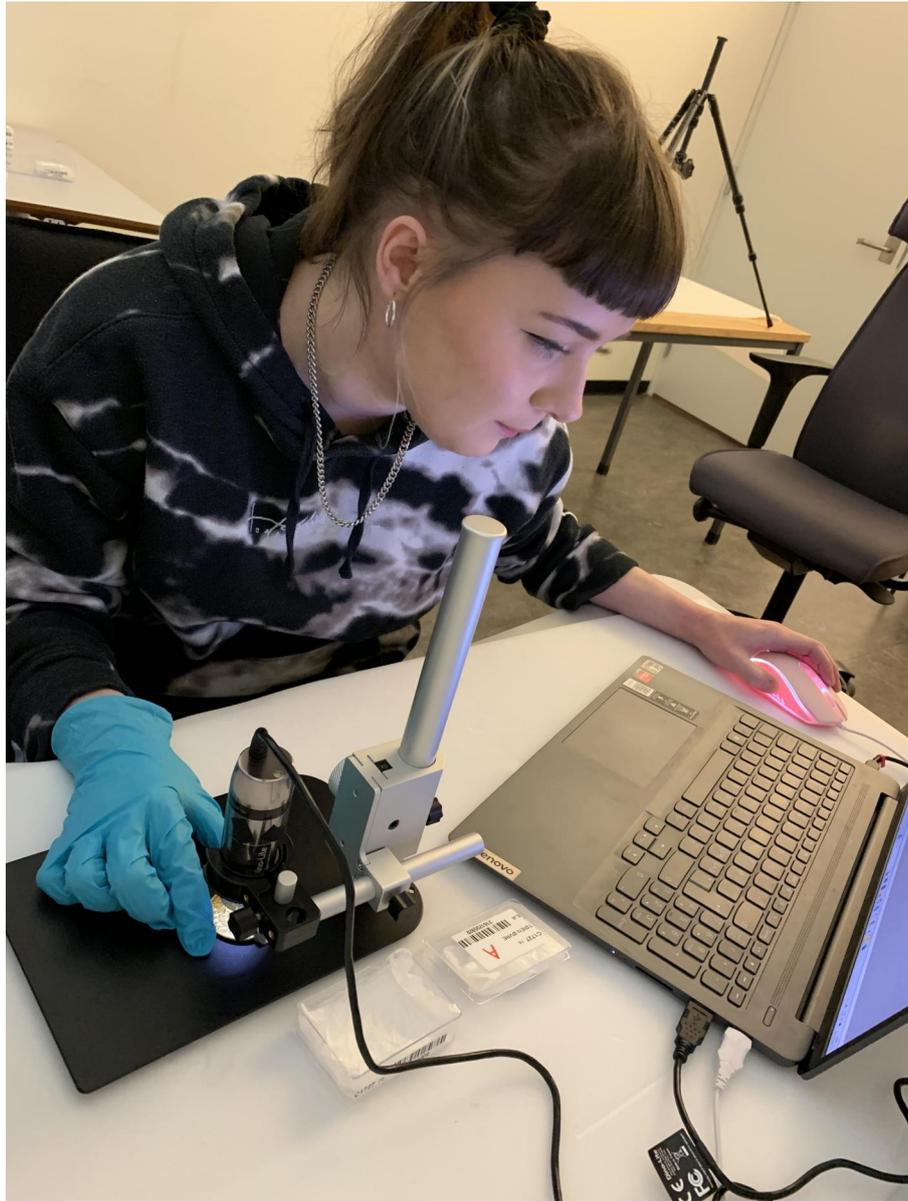
Small samples from damaged mummies will be taken for radiocarbon dating, while biomolecular analysis of feathers will yield information about the diet of the birds (which might distinguish wild caught from captive bred), and disclose their geographic origin. When combined with the dating evidence, they will determine whether the intensive exploitation of these birds led to a wider catchment for capture and impacted species abundance.

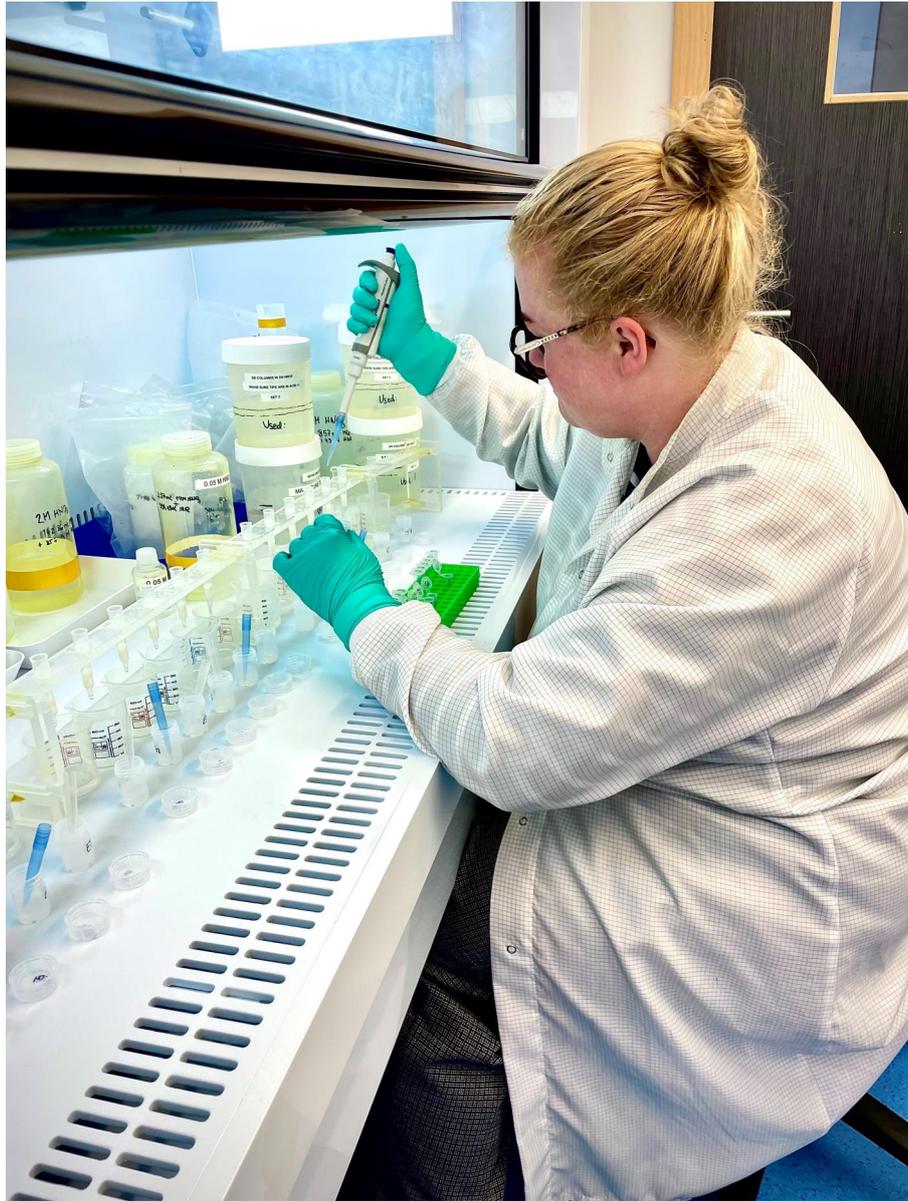
Finally, they will review the meaning and context of small raptor representation in Pharaonic text and art. This will provide information on: which species were represented and in which contexts; how representations changed through the Late and Ptolemaic periods; whether there is evidence for captive breeding or wild capture; and whether the representation of raptors reflected artistic conventions or observed features and behaviours.

Together, the team will advance scientific methods for investigating mummies, reveal new insights in Ancient Egyptian society, and showcase how archaeological evidence can be used to understand the long-term impact of intensive, human exploitation on wild bird populations.

End of Year Update: *Body-Politics* (ERC)







NLAND, MARJA

2021 ANTIK HISTORIA



DR. MARIANNE HEM ERIKSEN

Associate Professor of Archaeology at the School of Archaeology and Ancient History, University of Leicester.
PI of the ERC Starting Grant Body-Politics.



THE GLOBAL VIKING AGE
THE WIVA SEMINAR SERIES

Centre for
The World in the

THE GLOBAL VIKING AGE

THE WIVA SEMINAR SERIES

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The World in the Viking Age





The ERC-funded BODY-POLITICS project (PI: Dr Marianne Hem Eriksen, 2021-2026) is the first large-scale research project that seeks to understand political development in the Scandinavian Iron and Viking Ages through the construction of the person. We're now over halfway through the project, with several publications already out and in press that centre concepts of the body and personhood through first millennium Scandinavia.

It's been a busy end to the year for everyone working on the *Body-Politics* project, with our researchers undertaking fieldwork to analyse Iron and Viking Age finds from across Scandinavia. Dr Emma Tollefsen travelled to Belgium to receive training in the preparation and processing of archaeological teeth and cremated bone for strontium (Sr) isotope analysis, under the guidance of Prof Christophe Snoeck (Vrije Universiteit Brussel). The samples derive from human remains deposited in settlements and incorporated into domestic spaces at sites across Scandinavia –that is, bodies buried outside normative funerary contexts. Emma then visited the Kulturhistorisk Museum (Oslo) to reassess several

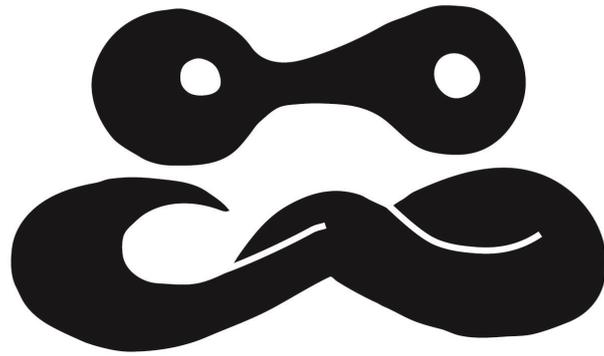
early Iron Age cremations from sites in eastern Norway, some of which have not been investigated since the 1980s. *Body-Politics* has now documented over 180 sets of human remains deposited in settlement contexts – ranging from whole bodies, to articulated body-parts, to isolated skeletal elements and skull fragments – from 34 sites across Scandinavia (ca. 500 BCE – 1050 CE). Elisabeth Aslesen also completed data collection at the Kulturhistorisk Museum, where she analysed diminutive gold objects from ca. 5th–7th century Norway with microscopy and Reflectance Transformation Imaging (RTI). Finally, Renate Larssen and Brad Marshall visited the archives of the Historiska Museet (Stockholm). Renate examined animal remains from Tuna i Alsike and Helgö for her investigations into human-animal relationships in Iron Age Scandinavia, while Brad analysed the animal remains from Tuna, as well as the black earth area from the famous Birka site, to establish stable isotope faunal baselines for central Sweden.

We also welcomed to the team two new research associates, Dr Veronica Tamorri and Dr Kevin Kay. Veronica specialises in archaeoethanatology and human osteology, and recently completed a Marie Skłodowska-Curie postdoctoral fellowship at Leiden University (Netherlands), where her project *WOMen-PRO* explored the life course and social role of women in pre-pharaonic Egypt and Nubia. She is working alongside Emma Tollefsen on WP1 ‘Body-Objects’, which analyses the fascinating dataset of osteological material we’ve collated. Kevin is working with Marianne on the Leverhulme-funded project *Making Oddkin in Later European Prehistory*, which investigates the contributions of non-elite, non-normative, and subaltern people to kinship in the late Iron Age of Scandinavia, and aims to develop new theory to enable a more inclusive and practice-grounded conversation about kinship in the age of aDNA. Kevin and Marianne have also published a new chapter, titled ‘[Mapping collaborations](#)’ ([link](#)) in an edited volume on gender archaeology, in which they propose ‘a workable best practice for exploring gender in more-than-human worlds (without surrendering our commitments to people)’.

Finally, we’ve been busy speaking about our research to all kinds of audiences. In addition to several research presentations in the last two months, including invited lectures in York, Nottingham, and Uppsala (see the stack below for the full list), Emma Thompson guested on the [Nordic Mythology Podcast](#) ([link](#)), where she discussed the famous Viking burial from Repton (with a second episode coming soon on Viking graves!), and is organising the session ‘Towards an Archaeology of Cosiness’ at this year’s Theoretical Archaeology Group meeting (Bournemouth). Renate appeared on Swedish TV to discuss horse behaviour and welfare issues in modern equestrian horse sport. And on 20th December, you can hear Marianne discuss Viking intoxication on the BBC’s [Free Thinking](#) ([link](#)) podcast, where the panel will be talking about beer, crisps, and the British pub.

To see everything the team gets up to in the new year, make sure to follow the project updates on Instagram ([@bodypoliticserc](#)) and on our [website](#) ([link](#))!

Click through the stack below for more details on presentations and lectures given by members of the project!



BODY - POLITICS



05/11/2024

Emma Thompson – Beaded identities: The constructive powers of jewellery in Danish Viking Age burials

Society for Medieval Archaeology Student Symposium

15/11/2024

Marianne Hem Eriksen (with Emma Tollefsen) – Untold stories: ‘Body-objects’ in settlement contexts in Iron and Viking Age Scandinavia

University of York

18/11/2024

Alexander Wilson – Marks of non-personhood: Violence against unfree bodies in medieval Iceland and Scandinavia

University of Nottingham

26/11/2024

Marianne Hem Eriksen and Renate Larssen – Body-politics of first millennium Scandinavia: Tales from a large-scale research project

Uppsala University

02/12/2024

Marianne Hem Eriksen and Alexander Wilson – Body-politics: Bodies on the margins and the politics of personhood in Iron and Viking Age Scandinavia

University of Cambridge

14/12/2024

Kevin Kay and Marianne Hem Eriksen – Ancestral rifts: Structural violence and the politics of kinship in 1st millennium northern Europe

Theoretical Archaeology Group 45th Annual Meeting

15/12/2024

Emma Thompson – A pillow for your head: ‘Comfortable’ deaths in Viking Age Denmark

Theoretical Archaeology Group 45th Annual Meeting



5 - L-R: Anna Davies-Barrett and Sarah Inskip in Canada

Over the past few months, the Tobacco, Health and History Team have been excited to see recent media interest in our findings. Following one of our newest [publications \(link\)](#), which came out on the 4th of October in *Science Advances*, our research has been featured in at least 62 news articles. In particular, we worked with journalists to produce pieces on our work in [Science Magazine \(link\)](#) and [BBC Science Focus \(link\)](#). Our story will even be featured in print in the BBC Science Focus Magazine!

On top of this, between October and November, we (Sarah and Anna) also attended two conferences in Toronto and London (Ontario), Canada - the Canadian Association for Biological Anthropology Annual Conference and the Social Sciences History Association Annual Conference - where we presented work from the project (and also got to visit Niagara Falls!). Canadian biological anthropologists were keen to hear all about our new methods for quantifying oral health in past populations!

On the 15th-16th of November, we also paid a visit to London (England) for an interdisciplinary workshop event with other UKRI-Future Leader Fellow grant holders, where we discussed such unusual topics as how neuroscientists and archaeologists might have research interests in common – It turns out we do! We also took part in an outreach event in Lambeth Town Hall, where we talked to lots of the locals about investigating aging and age-related diseases in the past.

Finally, in very exciting news, Sarah has also received her UKRI-FLF funding renewal. Hooray!!! This includes another three years' worth of funding, with a pivot in research direction from tobacco to tuberculosis. We will explore ways of identifying tuberculosis in the past via biomolecular, osteoarchaeological, and microscopic methods. We are excited to get started on the project at the end of 2025. Watch this space!

-Dr Anna Davies-Barrett



6 - L-R: Anna Davies-Barrett and Sarah Inskip at Lambeth Town Hall

[Leicester at Theoretical Archaeology Group Conference](#)

Leicester was fantastically represented at the recent Theoretical Archaeology Group conference in Bournemouth. There were papers from our brilliant students (both distance learning and campus based), from our amazing postdoctoral researchers and our staff. We ran sessions, we gave papers, and we thoroughly immersed ourselves in all the theory that TAG has to offer. There were 23 sessions at TAG and 30% had at least one Leicester organiser, and 43% featured at least one Leicester speaker! Archaeological theory is a real strength at Leicester and it was wonderful to see both how well represented we were and the amazing scope of ideas that were on show.

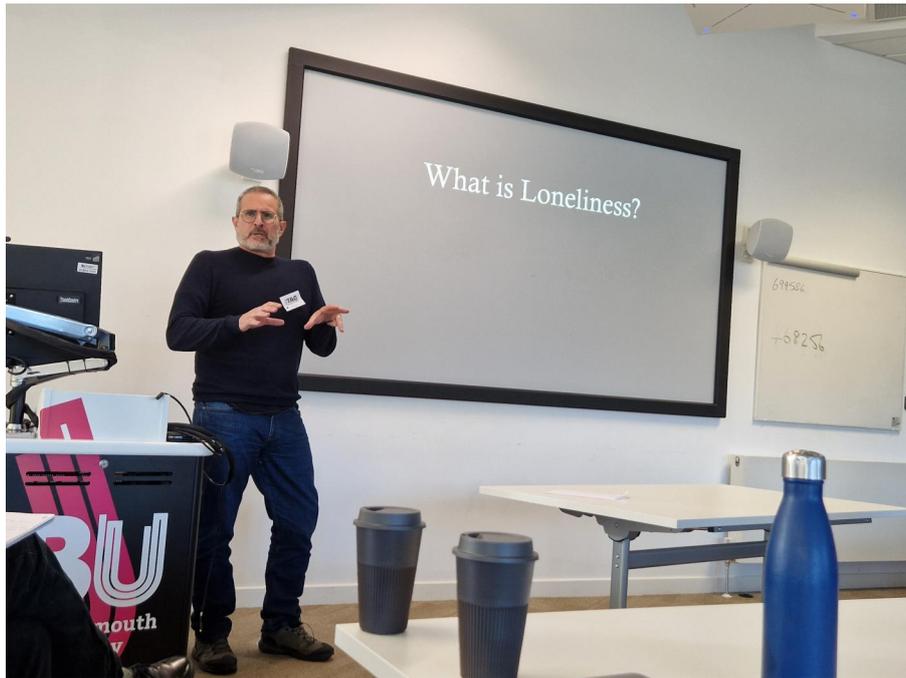
Click through the stack of images below for photos of some the Leicester TAG speakers. Click on the grey box in the left hand corner of each image for the associated caption.



7 - Dr Brian Costello



8 - Brodhi Molloy, PhD candidate



9 - Joel Rodrigues Oliveira Dos Santos, PhD candidate



10 - Jonny Graham, PhD candidate



11 - Dr Kevin Kay



12 - L-R: Brodhi Molloy & Yvonne (Ron) O'Dell, PhD candidates



13 - L-R: Emma Thompson & Kate Evetts, PhD candidates



14 - Emma Thompson, PhD candidate



15 - Kate Evetts, PhD candidate



16 - Andrew Thompson, PhD candidate



17 - Emma Stockley, PhD candidate



18 - Dr Laura Basell



19 - L-R: Alvaro Ortega Gonzalez , Judith Aceves Lopez

Research, Enterprise and Impact Committee Dates

- *March 5th*
 - *May 28th*
-

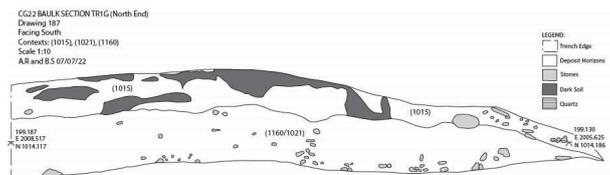
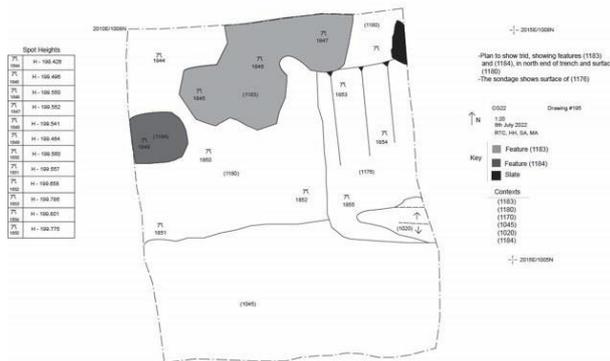
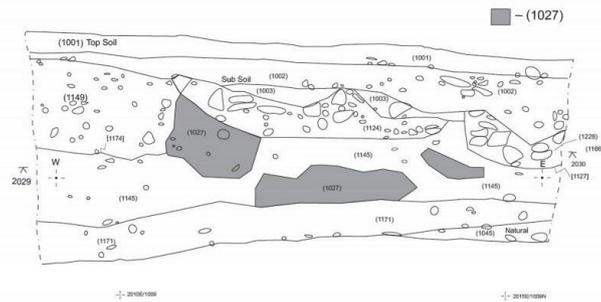
Teaching News

Illustration Workshop

In May 2024 Distance Learning and Campus Based students enjoyed a 3 day digital illustration workshop on campus. The workshop was organised by Rachel Crellin, funded through the Teaching Development Fund and was run by the professional archaeological illustrator [Rob Hedge \(link\)](#). Rob is an archaeologist, finds specialist and professional illustrator. He is also the wonderful illustrator behind the Kathleen Kenyon Building cartoon and completing a PhD at Leicester in History, Politics and International Relations (HyPIR) . Students learned both about how to digitise plans and sections working on drawings from Rachel's excavation of a Bronze Age burial mound on the Isle of Man and then produced more creative responses to archaeological objects and sites that inspired them.

CG22
1/10
13/7/22
PH + SA
Drawing # 225

- SECTION DRAWING OF NORTH SECTION OF TRENCH 1C (FACING SOUTH)
- Part 2

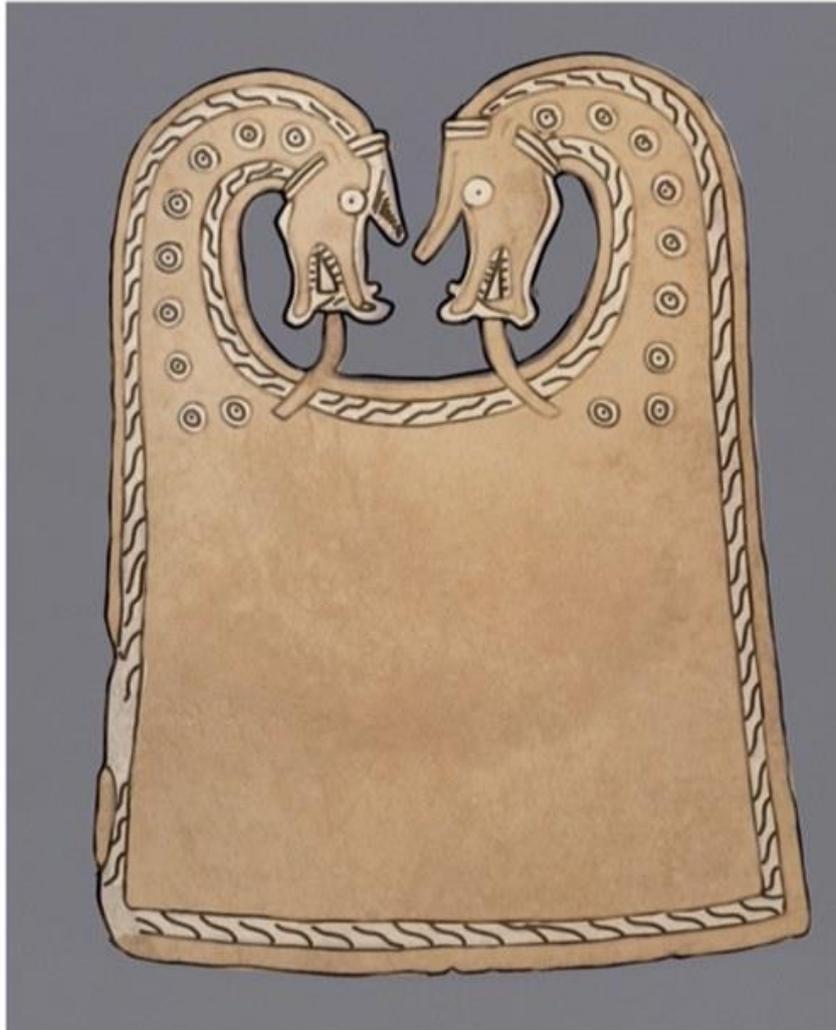


All the drawings in the below slideshow were created by students of a site excavated by UoL students and staff on the Isle of Man. Many of the drawings are of a good enough quality that a small number of technical edits will allow them to be included in the site archive and credited to the students.

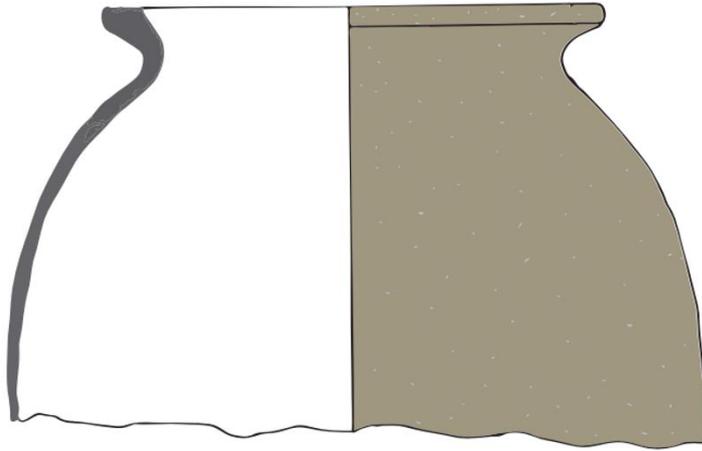
Click the grey box in the top left-corner of the slideshow for image credits



20 - Credit: Susanne Frenzel



21 - Credit: Susanne Frenzel



22 - Credit: Nicholas Kerwin



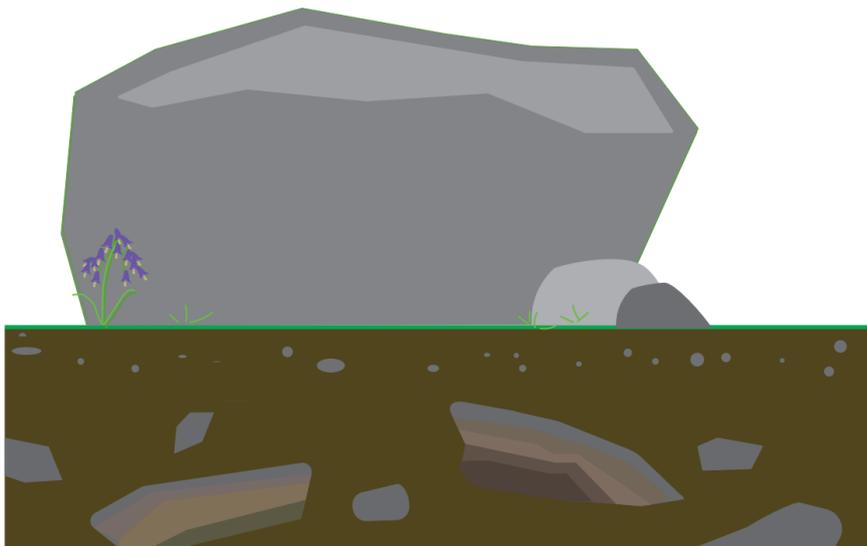
23 - Credit: Kris Arriola



24 - Credit: Kris Arriola



25 - Credit: Edward Fish



2024 Digital Illustration Course
University of Leicester

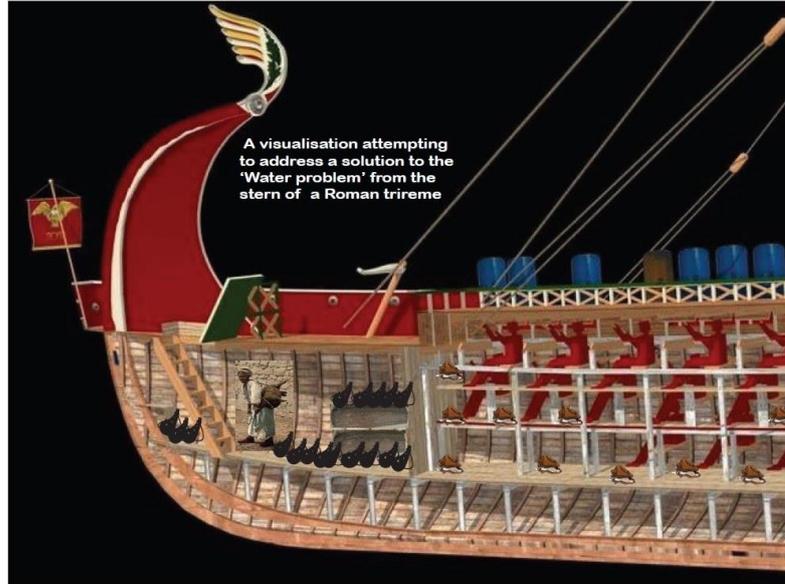
26 - Credit: Jack Brandon



27 - Credit: Zelda Peters

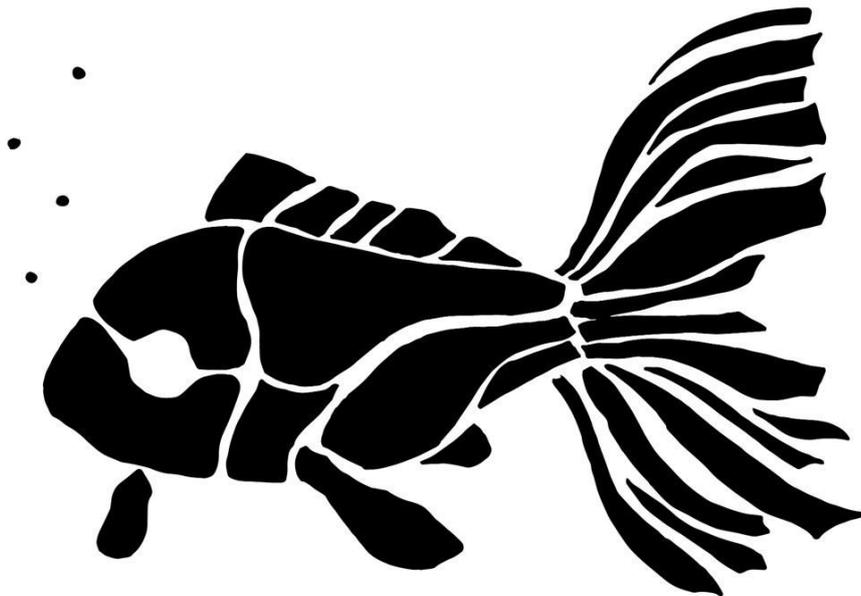


28 - Credit: Zelda Peters



Key  Fresh Water/Posca in Waterskin  Wooden Barrel  Discarded Empty Waterskin

29 - Credit: Andrew Williams



30 - Credit: Louise Foxall

Our Campus-based learners

SCONUL & Library Use Winter Vacation

Staff and students at the University can access other libraries across the UK and Ireland. SCONUL Access is a scheme which allows university library users to access study spaces, books and journals at other libraries which belong to the scheme. Some users may be able

to borrow print books from other libraries. [For more information and to apply for access, follow this link.](#)

David Wilson Library Opening Hours

The Library will remain open 24 hours between Saturday 21 December and Tuesday 31 December 2024, except for Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day when the Library will be closed. The Library Christmas opening hours can be found on the Christmas Opening expander on the [official page \(link, log-in required\)](#).

Students' Union Advice Service

Out of hours support is available via the Student's Union Advice Service. This can be accessed by [visiting their website \(link, log-in required\)](#).

Student-Staff Committee Dates

- *January 29th*
 - *March 26th*
 - *May 14th*
-

Our Distance Learners

Your Academic Reps

Find out more about your DL academic representatives below and how they have already made a positive impact. Current staff and students can also read about other reps and [how they can improve your student experience in this article \(link, log-in required\)](#).

Natalie Hayward

Course rep for BA Ancient History and Classical Archaeology (Distance Learning)

Level 3 and Students' Union Distance Learning Officer

2023-24 academic year, Natalie was the the distance-based School rep for the School of Archaeology and Ancient History

Most impactful change you've made as a rep?

During the last academic year, a lot of work was put into building a better connection with the distance learning community and improving their access to the resources which the University offers. This was done by running online meet ups, having watch parties for museum talks, and being active in communicating with students. I worked with academic staff to create a distance learning handbook, which has since gone through several iterations to be promoted to other schools. I also helped to establish the school newsletter and ensure the balance between campus and distance students was equal.

This year I hope to continue to help build the distance community and improve the information available about the dissertation process.

Favourite thing about being a rep?

I'm very passionate about building a better community for distance students, and to see that in action is probably the best thing about being an academic rep. I also enjoy identifying areas where things could be improved and supporting others to be able to advocate for their needs.

Fun fact about you?

I started to teach myself photo and video editing in 2020 and have helped to create over a hundred videos with just over 17,000 views combined. I've also photographed Jupiter, Saturn, and a bolt of lightning.



Molly Mather

School rep for the School of Archaeology and Ancient History

Course rep for the Classical Mediterranean MA

Most impactful change you've made as a rep?

The most impactful change I made last year was improving the visibility of reps within our department. We're there to make sure that students' voices are heard, their concerns dealt with and their positive feedback passed on, and we can't do that if no one knows we exist. We did this by letting students know what we were doing while we were doing it, running regular drop-in sessions for students to provide feedback and the occasional pizza party to encourage people to learn more about the rep system. For the work I did last year, I won the College of Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities Rep of the Year award and, with my fellow school rep Natalie Hayward, the Co-ordinators' Choice Special Recognition award.

Favourite thing about being a rep?

I really love helping people advocate for themselves, and as both school and course rep, I am in a position to help people advocate for their education, making sure that their needs are met and their voices are heard. Doing that, I've had the opportunity to get involved in a range of smaller tasks, which have all been fascinating.

Fun fact about you?

In my spare time I love to do various crafts, including making candles, and random things out of epoxy resin. I think the best thing I've made so far has been a set of green, black and gold DnD dice.



[The Stag's Lament](#)

This edition we are featuring a short story by 3rd year Ancient History and Classical Archaeology (DL) student, Evelina Bucher. Inspired by a recent module on Roman Britain, this short story explores the theme of identity of the local population during the Roman occupation.

The Stag's Lament

A lone stag moves silently along the Fosse Way. His hoofsteps echo the hurried strides of foreign humans. The quiet grazing of his ancestors seems now a distant memory. Strange stone figures overshadow rivers that once meandered through the earth, relics of its usurpers. The air is thick with the unfamiliar smells of people—sweat, smoke, roasted meats, and the sharp tang of metal and leather. Gone are the tranquil songs of nature, drowned out by the clatter of voices, the clink of coins, and the harsh clang of armour.

Roads stretch like scars across the land where groves once flourished, imposing a new order. The stag's heart is heavy as he wanders, searching for traces of familiarity until he spots a small, forgotten yew grove. There, an old friend grazes—the boar, calm and grounded as ever, rooted in the soil of memory. The scent of damp earth and moss fills the air, pulling the stag closer, reminding him of their shared days in the sunlit forest.

"What happened?" the stag asks, sorrow filling his voice.

"The eagle," the boar replies, casting his gaze skyward as a shadow passes over them. High above, an eagle soars, cutting through the clouds, watchful and commanding over the land.

"All is lost," the stag laments, bowing his proud head.

"No," the boar says softly. He leads the stag toward the bustling forum, where humans in togas rush about. Amid the sea of pale fabric, a flash of plaid cloth catches the stag's eye—a remnant of another time. Nearby, whispered words in the old tongue drift through the air, familiar yet nearly forgotten.

"Our home is still here," the boar says and meets the stag's eyes. "It's just changed."

-Evelina Buchner

[Inspiration via Location](#)

Archaeology BA (DL) student, Basil Anthony, takes us on a trip through London. One of the perks of being a distance learner!

As I live in Covent Garden I buy a hopper ticket on the boat at least 3 times a week and leave embankment all the way to Barking while doing my uni work on boat, going through all the historical sites London has to offer, passing Tower Bridge, the old cotton Wharf Mills, Greenwich Palace and its rich Tudor history. [T]hen turning back all the way to Putney, passing St Paul's, Big Ben, Westminster, [the] amazing 'Battersea power station' all the way to Putney where Henry the VIII 'important statesmen' Thomas Cromwell was born. [T]hese river trip is my inspiration for my studies.

A lot of my studying includes stuff which is held at the British Museum, so I tend to refer to the original artefacts as a point of study and using photos for essay. It's a privilege to actual[ly] be able to walk 5 mins into [the] British Museum again inspiring my studies and

actually feeling that I'm living through different periods, truly remarkable and extremely satisfying.

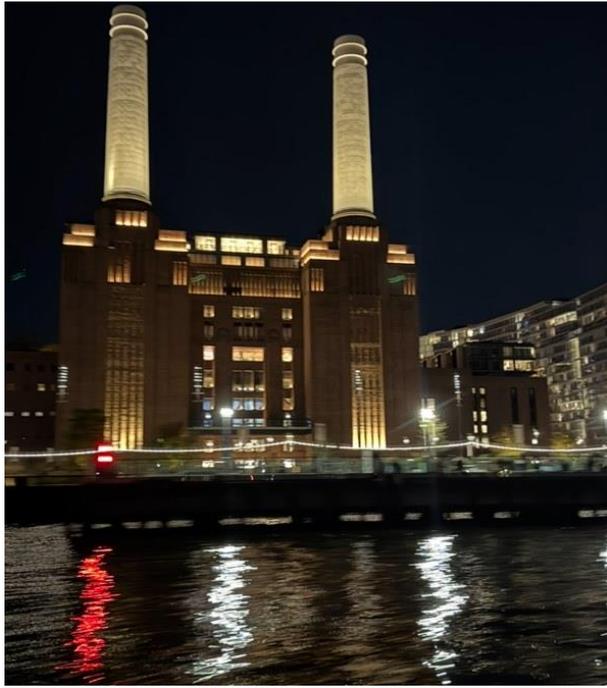
- **Basil Anthony**

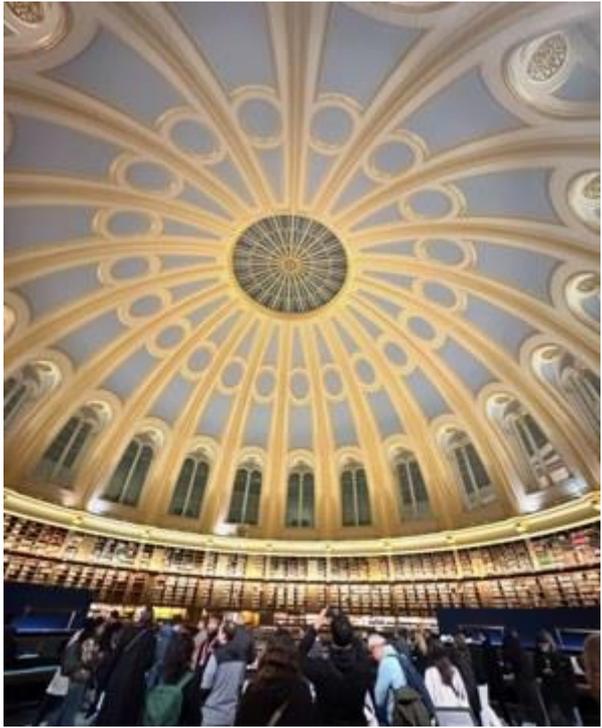














The Parthenon and the wider world

The Parthenon sculptures are part of the global story of world cultures.

The Parthenon frieze continues an ancient tradition of carving pictorial narrative in low-relief, which stretches back to the great civilisations of Persia, Assyria, Egypt and Sumeria. The Athenian sculptors could look to these earlier cultures for inspiration, just as their work was to inspire later artists.

At the British Museum, the sculptures form part of a wider global story. Here, the art of civilisations that preceded the Parthenon and those that came later can be seen together, as part of a world narrative.

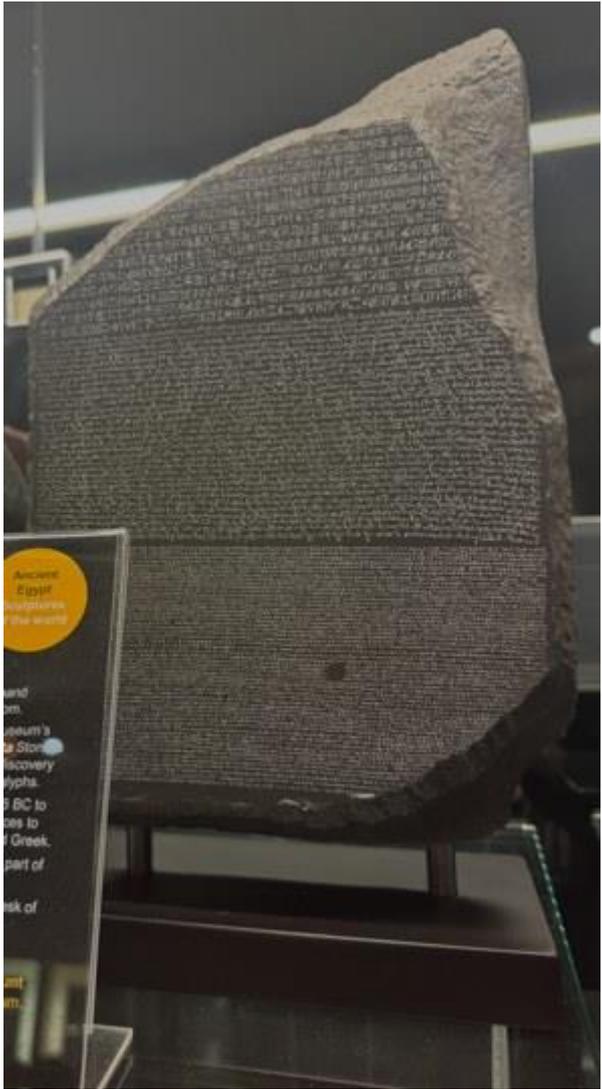
Since Egin's time, all the remaining sculptures have been removed and will never be restored to the Parthenon. Once architectural ornaments displayed high above the ground, the sculptures have become objects of art to be appreciated at eye level.

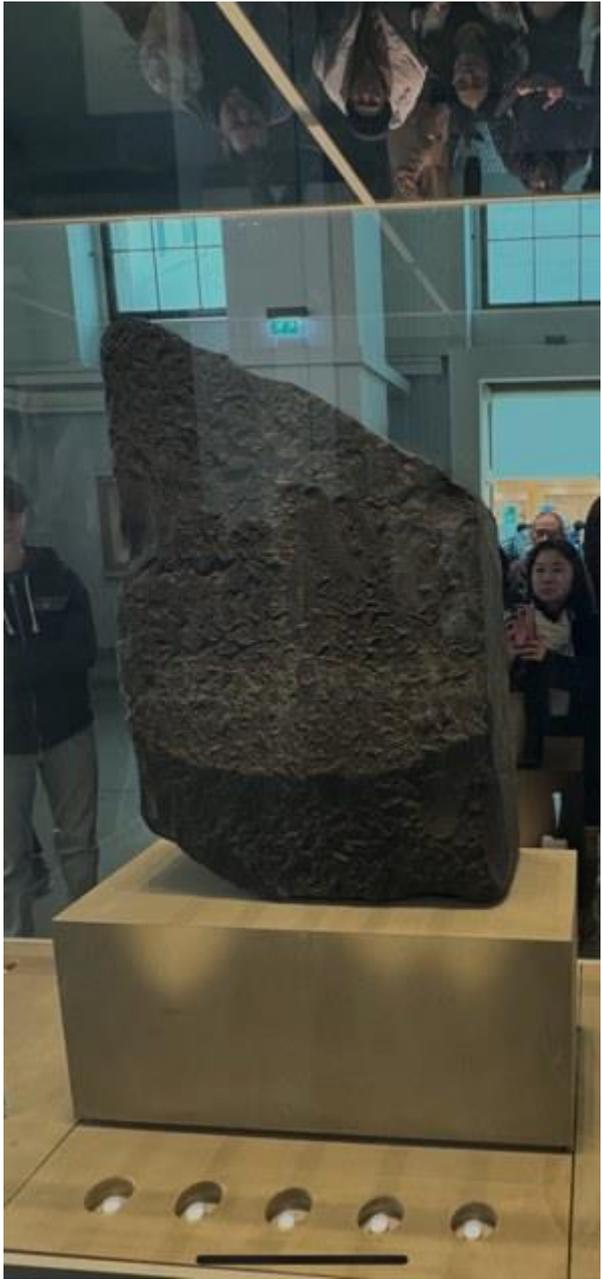


The Standard of Ur was discovered in the Sumerian Royal Cemetery of Ur in southern Iraq. Made around 2500 years before the Parthenon, it shows animals, fish and other goods being brought in a procession to a festival banquet. The Standard is on display in Room 64.



This scene from a Sumerian temple frieze at the Great Ziggurat at Uruk depicts a procession accompanying the Great King of Persia. It was created around 500 BC, 200-300 years before the Parthenon sculptures. Objects from Sumerian art are displayed in Room 63.









Postgraduate Student News

AFHEA Success

Congratulations to **Emma Stockley** for their successful application for Associate Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy (AFHEA)!

PhD by Practice | Earn & Learn

Hello everyone, I am Ben Donnelly-Symes and I am one of the first group of five guinea pigs pioneering by-practice part-time PhD students within the department along with Chris Chinnock, Debbie Frearson, Katy Hawkins and Shannon Loftus. The by-practice PhD was set up for students to undertake research where there is an aspect of their day-to-day work involved. We are all just under a year into our research (13 months for Debbie as she was far more organised and applied earlier than the rest of us!), with another up to 6 years to go.

As a group we are undertaking a rather diverse range of topics based upon our work from Roman bottle feeders (Katy – independent Roman ceramics specialist) and Roman cemeteries in the Nene valley (Chris – reporting team lead and osteoarchaeologist at MOLA) to bison hunting sites in Idaho (Shannon – Cultural Resource Technician Lead at Idaho National Laboratory) with some community archaeology in the East Midlands sprinkled in (Debbie – runs the Festival of Archaeology for Council of British Archaeology). For me, my research is studying non-specialist engagement with archaeological archive collections in museums within the UK. It is based on the work I do in my ‘other life’ as the archaeological curator of the Northamptonshire Archaeological Resource Centre at the Chester House Estate in Northants.

Personally, I am really glad that I came to undertaking the PhD at this point in my life. Like many young students, when I had finished my masters many years ago I did want to do a PhD (in funerary ritual in Early Iron Age Greece of all things...) but it never materialised. After earning actual money in a job, the intention was to look at doing something perhaps when I retired. However, the opportunity came up for funded studentships at Leicester, I started considering whether there was something I could do relating to the work I do in my current job. I had an existing relationship and similar views on public archaeology with folks in the department from our work co-directing the Irchester Field School (read more about the award-winning Field School in the *'Our Community'* section!). After speaking at the very last minute with Prof. Sarah Scott, I did my application over the weekend (about 2 days before the deadline) and luckily was accepted. So don't give up on the idea of a PhD! It may happen, just in a different way to what you intended!



31 - L-R: Impromptu meeting of SAAH by-practice PhD students Ben Donnelly-Symes, Kayt Hawkins and Debbie Frearson at the Council of British Archaeology Archaeological Achievement Awards

It has allowed me to use the real world experience I have of working within archaeology and museums to inform my research

Undertaking the PhD now has allowed me to study something that I believe will have a potential real world impact within my sector. It has allowed me to use the real world experience I have of working within archaeology and museums to inform my research. It has also allowed me to think more critically about my own work engaging the public with archaeology in a way that previously I had not considered. So far, it has been an exciting experience for us all as it has been over 10 years since any of us undertook formal academic research within a university. In particular, the world of ethics reviews has been an...interesting...adjustment.

Starting the PhD here has opened doors to me that I don't think would have been possible otherwise. Since starting the PhD, I was asked to be and elected chair of the Society of Museum Archaeology, which is something I am not sure would have happened without undertaking this research (side note - if anyone is struggling accessing an archaeological museum collection in the UK, I am happy to help!). It has also opened up for me the possibility for me to join groups studying human osteology and public engagement and

provide the opportunity to gain insights from some amazing academics and fellow students and develop projects and papers that would never have been viable before starting the PhD.

If anyone is thinking about studying a by-practice PhD then we'd all be more than happy to chat about it with you and if anyone starts one, you are more than welcome to join our by-practice self-help group on WhatsApp! - **Ben Donnelly-Symes** (bds18@leicester.ac.uk)

[Brodhie Molloy M4C-supported Placement with Archaeology Scotland](#)

Over summer PhD student Brodhie Molloy undertook a 3-month placement with Archaeology Scotland, supported by Midlands4Cities (M4C) . During the placement Brodhie assisted the organisation on several community engagement projects, guiding various community groups and students through document analysis, excavation, finds processing, ESOL activities and other skill developments. The projects Brodhie worked on included The Big Dig at Newbattle Abbey College, Bedrule Castle excavations, and Designing Utopia a social history project in North Lanarkshire which she continues to work on.

The Bedrule Castle excavation particularly stood out as an experience for Brodhie. The excavation is part of the ongoing " Twelve Castles of Rule Community Archaeology Project" that invites local groups to help unveil the story behind the fall of castles in the landscape during the Rough Wooing. These excavations welcomed a wide range of participants including locals from Bedrule and the surrounding villages, DofE students, the Borders Additional Needs Group (BANG), university students and even those holidaying in Scotland from America! Brodhie found the project extremely rewarding where she helped to host the excavation, supporting and training several of the groups involved.



32 - Far right: Brodhie Molloy



33 - Centre: Brodhie Molloy

Annual PGR Conference

It is that time of year again when we share news of the **Annual PGR Conference!**

This is a great opportunity for PGR members of our community to share their research in their chosen format. It's a way for us to learn a bit about each other's work, make new connections with our own research, and have a limited amount of free university-supplied food. This year we will also be joined by our new department mates, Museum Studies PGRs, to join in on the festivities and hope this will be the first of many events working together!

For those wishing to submit something for the conference (including distance learners, part-time, and masters students), the **deadline for abstracts of c. 250 words is Friday 31st January.**

We will send out more details closer to the event but the save the date is for **Wednesday 19th February 2025** (reading week). The conference will run in **Sir Bob Burgess 0.03 and via MS Teams**. For more information or submissions please email Brodhie Molloy (bmim2@leicester.ac.uk) and Emma Thompson (elt21@leicester.ac.uk).

Wednesday Research Seminar Series 2024-25

Our regular research seminar series will continue in the Spring semester; join us for hot drinks and cake in the foyer of the Archaeology and Ancient History building from 16:30 before each seminar, which start at 17:00 and are hybrid. Join remotely using the MS teams link below.

Where: George Porter Lecture Theatre A

Jan 22nd

Dr Emma Baysal and Dr Sera Yelözer, Bilkent, University and Istanbul University | Decolonial perspectives on identity – a view from within / Türkiye

Jan 29th

Dr Nauman Reayat, University of Leicester | Provisional Title: The Global South Network: From Spectators to Players

Feb 5th

Theo Reeves, University of Birmingham/York Archaeology | Iron Age Marsh-forts: site and landscape

Feb 12th

Dr Thomas Matthews Boehmer, University of Leicester | Nuptiality in the Roman North: a new perspective

Feb 19th

Annual PGR Conference

26- Feb

Dr David Gange, University of Birmingham | Provisional Topic: Coastal Histories

March 5th

Dr Lenore Thompson, University of Derby | Rethinking Indigenous copper use in the Pacific Northwest during the fur trade and colonial periods

March 12th

Dr Gwendoline Maurer, Cardiff University | Reassessing Kura-Araxes pastoral practices and mobility in the Levant & Caucasus using zooarchaeology, ZooMS & stable isotope analysis

March 19th

Dr Elizabeth Stroud, University of Oxford | Title TBC - Topic: Archaeobotany

March 26th

Dr Matt Evans, University of Leicester | Provisional Title: Mobility and Multi-Scalar Power Dynamics in Hellenistic and Roman Ionia

Microsoft Teams meeting :-

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 360 499 175 136

Passcode: oU725Uo7

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

Professional Services Updates

Citizens' Awards Success | Technician Award



34 - L: Dr Rachel Crellin, R: Dr Rachel Armitage at the Citizen's Awards night

Our fantastic Technical Services Manager, Dr Rachel Armitage, was awarded the Technician Award at the University of Leicester's Citizens' Award's, held 28th November! The criteria for the award was to recognise an individual who:-

- Uses innovative thinking to deliver challenging and effective support for students and staff.
- Creates a welcoming, inclusive and enriching environment.

- Develops their knowledge and expertise to drive ambitious, innovative and enterprising interventions.
- Upholds University values and strategic aims when representing the Technician community.
- Empower students and staff to learn by pushing frontiers to generate new knowledge, nurture creative & critical thinking and curiosity.
- Collaborates and develops partnerships with others beyond the standard expectations of the role.

Rachel richly deserved the award which represents one small fraction of how grateful we all are to have Rachel in the school. Staff find working with Rachel rewarding and know how much she has contributed to the School since joining

Huge congratulations!

[Welcome to our Distance Learning Colleagues!](#)

In November the Distance Learning Student Support Officers moved from Registry Services to the become part of the School proper, a move that welcomed by all. Although we have only been part of the School family for 7 weeks we are already seeing the benefit of being able to work more closely with the academics and support teams. We now have an office on the 11th floor of the Attenborough tower (1112 if anyone would like to pop in and say hello) were you can find us all on Tuesday, Phil and Vickee on a Wednesday, and Tim on a Thursday.

The team will continue to administer all aspects of distance learning with email communication now coming in via saahstudent@le.ac.uk

- **Tim, Phil and Vickee**

Find out more about the individual team members below! The School are very happy to have them back in the School and look forward to working more closely with the DL team.

Tim Edwards | TE87@le.ac.uk | 0116 223 1936

I joined the university in 2021 and since then have had the pleasure of working with many fantastic students and inspirational tutors in the school of Archaeology and Ancient History. Before working for UoL I was an admissions specialist at Coventry University, career advisor for a large FE college, youth worker, specialist support officer and engagement officer for the council. All of my working history has focused on helping others overcome barriers and support them to achieve.

Outside of work I enjoy going to gigs and festivals, renovating our forever home, and spending time in nature. My perfect day would be cooking for the family and enjoying quality time together, however with 2 preteen emos it not always that easy though their taste in music is getting better.



Phill Johns | pj93@le.ac.uk | 0116 252 2580

I've worked in Distance Learning admin for 12 years now (and five days, as I write this!), first as a programme administrator in the Department of Media and Communication, then later as a Student Support Officer in the DL Hub, where I eventually became part of the team responsible for programme administration for Archaeology, and later joined by Tim and Vickee.

It's been a strange journey, going from a department, to a centralised hub, and back to another department, but joining the school has felt a lot like coming home. Long before working in programme admin, I studied for a BA in Archaeology and an MA in Professional Archaeological Practice, both here at Leicester.

One of the highlights of my studies here was in specialising in Standing Buildings, and Historical Archaeology, but what really fascinates me the most are the small finds. With a background in art and illustration, I really enjoyed the opportunities I had to illustrate objects such as broaches, so I'm intrigued to see how developments in 3d scanning and printing have advanced artefact photography and recording.

I'm a dad to two rambunctious and amazing kids who are a constant source of amazement and befuddlement in equal measure.

In my spare time, I paint tiny little miniatures – I find focusing on a tiny figure and painting it *just right* to be relaxing and cathartic. I'm not much for playing tabletop battles (though I'm persuading my wife to play Stargrave) so instead I like putting together display dioramas.



Vickee Kainth | vk147@leicester.ac.uk | 0116 373 6386

Hello, I'm Vickee. I began my role as a Student Support Officer at the University in November 2022, where I support our Distance Learning students. My passion lies in empowering individuals to reach their full potential and become the best versions of themselves. Before joining the University, I worked as a trained Mediator, helping young people who were furthest away from Education, Employment, and Training. I supported them in overcoming various challenges, including mental health struggles, substance misuse, homelessness etc, to help them reengage and move forward on their journey.

In my current role, I take great satisfaction in speaking with our Distance Learning Students, offering tailored solutions to address any challenges they may face along the way.

On a personal level, I'm a proud mother to a lively 4-year-old boy—definitely a little Tasmanian devil/ball of energy (as all 4-year-olds are, I'm sure!). We enjoy spending quality time visiting family in Wales and Solihull, taking part in fun activities and creating lasting memories.

On the weekend, I enjoy a glass or two of wine and a 'fine-dining' style meal cooked by my Husband-it's like having my very own Michelin Star chef at home.

I'm excited about the Hub's move back to the school and the opportunity for us to work closely together as one unified team. I look forward to the new opportunities this transition will bring along with it.



Our Alumni - Where are they now?

Share Your Journey, Shape Their Future

As alumni, your journey and expertise hold immense value for our students. You've walked the path they aspire to follow, and your insights can make a lasting difference. By volunteering with our Careers & Employability initiatives, you can empower the next generation to achieve their dreams while strengthening our alumni-student connection.

Here are some impactful ways you can contribute:

1. 🗣️ **Inspirational Career Talks (ICT)**

Join a panel of professionals to share your journey, answer student questions, and provide invaluable career tips. Your story could be the spark that inspires a student to take their next big step.

2. 💡 **'In Residence' Sessions**

Dedicate an hour or two, online or in person, to meet one-on-one with students. Share advice about your role, sector, and career insights, helping students navigate their aspirations.

3. 📷 **Share a Profile or Video**

Create a brief profile or video message about your career journey that can be featured on the Careers & Employability Blackboard site. It's a simple yet powerful way to reach students at their convenience.

4. 👤👩 **Become a Mentor**

Guide one or more students over a set period, providing mentorship and personalized advice to help them succeed.

These are just a few of the many ways you can give back. If you have other ideas for how you'd like to support, we'd love to hear them! **Your involvement doesn't just benefit students—it enriches our community.** Together, we can create opportunities and inspire

confidence in our future leaders. To learn more or express your interest, please contact School Administrator, Ingrid Dyson saah@le.ac.uk

[World History Encyclopedia | Reviews](#)

BA English Literature and Ancient History alum, Katerina Panagi's academic journey has given her the skills to make interesting and meaningful voluntary contributions to the *World History Encyclopedia*.

With a Bachelor's degree in English Literature with Ancient History, followed by a Master's degree in English Studies from the University of Leicester, Katerina's academic journey has been a deep exploration of language, literature, and the captivating narratives of the past. This unique combination not only sharpened her analytical and research skills but also deepened her passion for ancient history, allowing her to approach it from both a literary and historical perspective.

a degree in English Literature with Ancient History can be a powerful catalyst for future opportunities

Katerina's BA in particular has been fundamental in shaping her voluntary contributions to the *World History Encyclopedia* ([link](#)). The critical thinking and research skills she utilised during her degree have directly influenced her approach to writing book reviews— synthesising complex ideas and presenting them in an accessible way for a wider audience. Particularly, Katerina mentions that, 'my studies taught me how to examine texts closely, evaluate sources critically, and uncover connections between the past and present. This approach has been invaluable in my work, whether I'm delving into ancient civilizations or analyzing their cultural legacies'.

For students, her journey illustrates how a degree in English Literature with Ancient History can be a powerful catalyst for future opportunities. The analytical and research skills developed throughout the degree are not only transferable to a range of careers but can also spark further interests, encouraging students to see how their academic background can fuel a lifelong passion for exploration. Katerina is a proud contributor of the *World History Encyclopedia*, where she continues to apply the knowledge and skills from her studies, helping to enrich our collective understanding of ancient history.

One of her recent reviews, [The History of the Ancient World: From the Earliest Accounts to the Fall of Rome](#) ([link](#)), is an excellent starting point for those eager to dive into the depths of many ancient civilisations, including Mesopotamia, Egypt, the Indus Valley, early China, Greece, and Rome. Bauer's accessible writing and use of primary sources make complex historical events understandable and interesting. Explore this review and begin your own journey into the fascinating narratives that have shaped our past. - **Katerina Panagi**

What comes next? Post-PhD adventures with Dr Rubén Montoya González



35 - Dr Rubén Montoya González graduation

Completing a PhD is often described as the pinnacle of academic achievement, yet for many, it leaves the daunting question: *What comes next?* For me, life post-PhD has been a thrilling journey of discovery, growth, and transformation... after a period of post-pandemic uncertainty. Stepping out of the intense research bubble in Leicester, I embraced opportunities to expand my horizons, exploring new ideas and turning passion projects into tangible results. My first step was continuing a postdoctoral project at KNIR Rome, where I dedicated almost three years to researching Pompeian medallions. The result of that effort is now taking shape in academic books, articles, and conference presentations that reflect years of meticulous work.

life post-PhD has been a thrilling journey of discovery, growth, and transformation

But I always wanted to do something beyond research. Following the advice of my steadfast supervisors at Leicester (thank you, Sarah and Pim, for always encouraging me to explore my vocation), I ventured into new paths. Since then, one of the most exciting milestones has been the publication of my latest book, *Pompeii: A Roman City in 100 Objects*. This book represents a bridge between my academic roots and a wider audience, offering a narrative that pairs scholarly rigor with accessibility. Writing it was a cathartic process—bringing to life stories and ideas that once lived only in academic journals and conferences. The response

has been nothing short of extraordinary, sparking conversations in classrooms, book clubs, national radio and TV, and even international events.

As I write these words, I am packing for a trip to Latin America to promote the book—a journey I could never have imagined while finishing my PhD in a small Leicester apartment during the pandemic. To anyone nearing the end of their PhD, I'd encourage you to think big and dream boldly. There is a world of opportunity beyond the thesis defense—one that brims with creativity, collaboration, and personal fulfilment. A PhD is not an endpoint but a stepping stone to countless possibilities. What's your next adventure?

-Dr Rubén Montoya González



36 - Dr Rubén Montoya González with his book, Pompeii: A Roman City in 100 Objects

Our Community

Leicester Archaeology Monographs

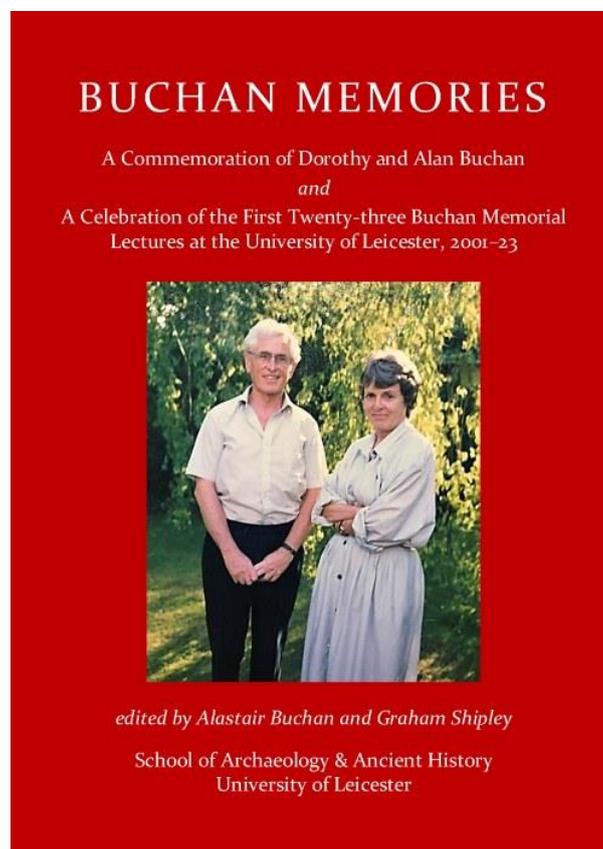
Did you know monographs written by SAAH and ULAS staff are available to purchase through the online University shop? These would make great gifts for lovers of archaeology or ancient history and there are several that focus on local discoveries such as *Life in Roman and Medieval Leicester: Excavations in the town's north-east quarter*, *Roman Leicester and Richard III - the King under the Car Park*.

NEW PUBLICATION AVAILABLE | Buchan Memories |

This volume celebrates the annual public lectures held at the University of Leicester since 2001. The series is funded principally by generous donations from the family and friends of Dorothy Buchan, who, after retiring as Head of Leicester High School for Girls, studied Ancient History and Archaeology at the University. It now also commemorates her husband, Alan, formerly Professor of Community Medicine at the University. Each of the 23 distinguished speakers so far has contributed further reflections on their topic, and the volume is embellished with illustrated posters designed for many of the events, as well as other striking images. The book opens with Alastair Buchan's memoir of his parents, followed by other memories of Dorothy and Alan.

Now available via shop@le!

[Browse and purchase our publications here! \(link\)](#)



Events and Important Dates

- ***Distance Learners' Day!***
-

The Students' Union are excited to announce the re-launch of this campus event for SAAH distance students. We're inviting DL students to campus to tour the facilities, learn about the resources available to them and meet some of the staff involved.

The event will take place on **Friday 4th April 2025, 10am-4pm.**

You must register for the event if you wish to attend, and all the information you need [can be found here \(link, log-in required\)](#) **Initial registration is almost at capacity, the form will be closed once this is reached!**

Any additional questions can be sent to the Distance Learning Officer, Natalie, at su-dlofficer@leicester.ac.uk

- ***Building re-name: Kathleen Kenyon***

On the 7th March 2025, there will be an event held between 11:00 - 13:00 to mark the re-naming of the Archaeology and Ancient History building to honour a true 'trowelblazer' Kathleen Kenyon . Select guests from the British Museum and Leicester Museums, as well as others, will come together to celebrate the legacy of one of archaeology's leading ladies. The event is aptly being held the day before International Women's Day 2025 and readers will be able to catch-up with the event in a follow up piece in the summer 2025 edition of The Mosaic. This will be only of the only buildings across the entire campus named after a woman and the only main campus teaching building, so marks an important milestone for female recognition.

We're lucky enough to host the BILNAS Digital Archive via the Archaeological Data Service. Check our the [October 2024 edition](#) for a sneak peak at the archive photos featuring Kathleen Kenyon.



37 - Kathleen Kenyon and unidentified man in the basilica, Sabratha (c.1949-1951).

- **February 19th, Annual PGR Conference**
- **Open Days:** [These are now finished for 2024 but you can still book a place on a Campus and Accommodation tour here \(link\)](#)
 - **University Closure Dates**

- Christmas Period | Monday 23rd December 2024 - January 1st 2025.
Reopens Thursday, 2nd January 2025.



Crohn's & Colitis UK Fundraiser

It's the time of year when people are encouraged to think of charitable giving and ways they can do good for one another. MA student, Molly Mather, is raising funds for a charity close to her heart. Read below to find out more, and how you can donate.

In January 2025, I will be participating in a fundraiser for Crohn's & Colitis UK, doing 31 minutes of exercise for 31 days.

A few years ago, this is not something I would have imagined I could do. I was diagnosed with Crohn's Disease in 2014, at 16 years old, and was unwell for several years before we eventually found a treatment that works for me. During that time, I wasn't able to do anything. I couldn't eat, I couldn't move, I couldn't get off the sofa. Eventually we did find something that worked for me though and I began to get my life back around 2019. I taught myself my A Levels and was able to choose subjects not offered by many schools – ancient history, classical civilisation, and Latin – and that's how I ended up studying Ancient History at Leicester.

Crohn's and Colitis UK gives people support in their daily lives and a community to share experiences and advice. It was where I turned when I was 16 and trying to understand what was happening to me. For a lot of people, 31 minutes of exercise may not seem like that much, but many people with Crohn's and Colitis can't work, can't go to school, can't do much of anything with their lives. I'm doing this fundraiser for the people that can't, for the people that are still fighting to get their lives back.

I would appreciate it so much if you could donate anything to this wonderful charity, but please don't feel obligated to. If you'd like to donate or find out more, please follow this link: <https://socialsync.app/fundraiser/cr-7j974yqxlv89v>

-Molly Mather



[Dr Kathryn Tempest Announced as New Chair of CUCD!](#)

Kathryn writes, I am absolutely honoured to have been appointed as the next Chair of CUCD: the Council of University Classical Departments, which provides a forum for discussing all things teaching and research in classical Greek and Roman subjects across British Universities. You can read more about the work of CUCD here <https://cucd.blogs.sas.ac.uk/> and my role will essentially be to steer and guide the work of the Standing Committee and its various sub-committees. In particular, I'll be working with colleagues across the UK to discuss how we can build on work to improve the discipline's record in equality, diversity and inclusion, especially with regard to race, class, and gender; I'm looking forward to joining discussions about pedagogical issues and hearing the exciting initiatives that the Education Committee are recommending; we'll also be thinking about how we can do more to advertise and share our passion for all things ancient with wider audiences, with a view both to increasing the outreach agenda of CUCD and protecting & promoting the value of the discipline. Before that, I will be working with colleagues in other subject associations and learned societies around preparations for REF – the Research Excellence Framework which assesses the quality of research in UK higher education institutions. So, it's no small job but it will be hugely rewarding and beneficial to be doing all of this alongside my teaching and research at Leicester.

-Dr Kathryn Tempest

[The Irchester Field School receives the Council for British Archaeology's Archaeological Achievement Award 2024](#)

The Irchester Field School received the Council for British Archaeology's Archaeological Achievement Award 2024 for Learning, Skills and Training at an Awards ceremony in Cardiff. The Awards [recognise and celebrate creativity, innovation, and community in archaeology and heritage \(link.\)](#)

The Irchester Field School is a community-focused archaeological research project at the [Chester House Estate \(link\)](#).

Within the Estate lies one of the best preserved walled Roman small towns in Britain, known as Irchester. At present, much of this heritage is buried; the challenge is to bring it to life and tell its stories. The Estate is also home to the Archaeological Resource Centre (ARC), a publicly-accessible archaeological archive for the whole of Northants.

The Irchester Field School is central to an innovative partnership between the University of Leicester and North Northamptonshire Council that aims to make archaeology and heritage accessible to all. It is a unique collaboration that combines university, sector and local knowledge and experience.

Collaborative activities include annual excavations, a Roman Festival, and a programme for schools that engaged over 3,300 students from 55 schools in 2023-2024. University of Leicester students are involved in fieldwork, internships and research projects. Local volunteers are involved in all aspects of archaeological research, school and public engagement. Community volunteers work alongside university students, with a wide range of training and mentoring provided to build confidence, skills and capacity. Recent discoveries have generated huge interest and excitement amongst students, volunteers and visitors alike, sparking new friendships and building a strong sense of community; [check out this BBC article about a student discovery at the site! \(link\)](#)

Archaeology is not just digging! We work to build the skillsets of all involved. In addition to fieldwork training, we run Roman pottery, archiving and osteology sessions for students and volunteers.

Commercial ventures and collaborations with local businesses support financial sustainability while boosting local businesses and tourism. Operation Phoenix is a pioneering collaboration with Northamptonshire Fire and Rescue Service and [Stanwick Lakes \(link\)](#) that [promotes wellbeing through archaeology and traditional crafts \(link\)](#) Our collaborative events and programmes attracted around 10,000 visitors to the Chester House Estate between June and August 2024. Collaboration with an interdisciplinary [University of Leicester team has supported feedback gathering and evaluation \(link\)](#).

The University of Leicester team includes staff from the University of Leicester Heritage Hub, the School of Archaeology and Ancient History and University of Leicester Archaeological Services. They work closely with staff from the Northamptonshire Archaeological Resource Centre (ARC) and the Chester House Estate.

'The people and organisations involved make our partnership special. We share a belief in the importance of making archaeology and heritage accessible. We are excited by the challenges and opportunities which are causing us rethink and redefine the ways we work. We are learning from each other, bringing people and communities together through archaeology and heritage. Working outside our comfort zone has resulted in innovation, collaboration and enterprise. It is important and rewarding work that is providing life-changing opportunities for people of all ages, and we are excited for the future.' - Quote from Prof Sarah Scott

To find out more about the Irchester Field School, visit the links below:-

- [Outreach | Irchester Field School](#)
- [Chester House Estate | Irchester Field School](#)
- [Facebook | Irchester Field School](#)
- [YouTube | CBA Awards Shortlist](#)
- [YouTube | University of Leicester Irchester Field School 2023](#)
- [YouTube | Discovering Archaeology and Chester House: Distance Learning and Hands-on Experience](#)

Written by Sarah Scott, Professor of Archaeology, University of Leicester Heritage Hub Director



38 - L-R: Ben Donnelly-Symes, Georgina Clipstone, Joe Bartholomew, Jeremy Taylor, Graham Murray



39 - Irchester Field School staff, students and volunteers

Follow our Social Media!

You can keep you to date with SAAH news and events in between editions of The Mosaic by following us on social media. Check out our handles below

 Instagram: ArchAncHistLeic

 Bluesky: @archanchistleic.bsky.social

 Facebook: School of Archaeology and Ancient History, University of Leicester

Archaeological Specialist Funded Qualification

Apprenticeships present the opportunity for new and existing staff to expand their technical, specialist and business skills through funded, recognised qualifications. Colleagues have opportunity to engage in long-term training where they gain tailored expertise and qualifications specific to their role. Current staff looking to gain an Archaeology degree, alongside their job, [should check out the Apprenticeships and Funded Qualifications pages \(Log-in required\)](#).

ULAS

We work closely with the University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) team across a variety of projects and they are crucial in helping to deliver our student fieldschools. If you would like to find out more about ULAS you can read their newsletter below, or [visit this link to view it in a separate window \(link\)](#).

Festive Greetings from everyone in the School of Archaeology and Ancient History!



We had a blast at the office Christmas party bopping to 90s tunes in the seminar room. Thanks to Carmen and Ingrid for organising, to our dedicated postdocs for hoovering the crisps off the floor, to Andy our cleaner for indulging us, to Adam and Joe for quizzing, and to all who came for their good spirits!

Dr Matthew Hitchcock and Abby Ford created a wonderfully interesting and creative display in the foyer, depicting the autumn term's seminars in a series of impressive drawings.





Next Edition: March 2025

