

ARCHAEOLOGY IN MILTON KEYNES

To: Buckinghamshire Historic Environment Forum

Date: November 2013

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A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To inform the Forum of recent archaeological matters in Milton Keynes.

B. FIELDWORK PROJECTS

1. Attached is a list of fieldwork projects (Events) undertaken in the Milton Keynes area between January and June 2013.

C. PLANNING

1. Between 1st January and 30th June 2013 there were 170 consultations in respect of archaeological matters as a direct result of planning applications, pre-development enquiries, and schemes by statutory undertakers and other agencies.

D. HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD

1. Migration of the HER to Exegesis HBSMR software has been successfully completed. Additionally the resource will also be re-launched on the Heritage Gateway via HBSMR Gateway in the next month.

E. OUTREACH

1. On Wednesday 5th June the Senior Archaeological Officer took members of the Bow Brickhill Historical Society on an archaeological walking tour of the Ouzel Valley around Caldecotte.
2. On Saturday 10th November over 400 people of all ages came through the doors of the Central Library to enjoy a range of activities and talks at the 6th annual Milton Keynes Archaeology Day.

New this year was a hands-on archaeology workshop hosted by Albion Archaeology. There were also displays throughout the library on the borough's heritage plus stands from active local organisations such as the City Discovery Centre and Northamptonshire's CLASP and UNAS

groups. Event regulars Magiovinium Metal Detecting club also proved popular with their wide-ranging collections of artefacts.

In the morning local archaeologist and excavator of Bancroft Roman villa Bob Zeepvat presented a fascinating talk to a packed room, reflecting on the development of the Milton Keynes Archaeology Unit (MKAU) from its beginnings in 1971 to the completion of its publication programme in 1993.

A particular highlight of the day was Professor Tim Darvill's presentation of his ground-breaking research on the origin and meaning of Stonehenge and the use of the Preseli Bluestones.

Preparations for this year's event on Saturday are complete and a programme is attached.

F. PROPOSED ACTION

1. The Forum is asked to note this report.

Fieldwork events in Milton Keynes January – June 2013

Site:	Parish:	Event:	Date	Summary:	Archaeologists:
Dovecote Farm	Astwood	Trial trenching	May	3 trial trenches on site of proposed wind turbine. Evidence for Romano-British iron smithing recovered.	Archaeology Warwickshire
McConnell Drive	Wolverton	Building recording	March	Building record of late 19th century railway works goods office.	Albion Archaeology
rear of 7a High St	Stony Stratford	Watching brief	April	Negative watching brief on extension.	ASC Ltd
The Old Swan, Main Road	Astwood	Watching brief	April	C13th/14th rubbish pits.	Souterrain Archaeological Services Ltd
Western Expansion Area, Area 10	Shenley Church End	Excavation	May	Late Iron Age to Romano-British settlement	Border Archaeology
The Salt Box, Bedford Road	Lavendon	Trial trenching	June	Background Romano-British activity and possible medieval waterlogged remains	Albion Archaeology
Middleton Primary School	Milton Keynes	Trial trenching	June	Late Iron Age to Romano-British settlement	ASC Ltd

Milton Keynes Archaeology Day 2013

Milton Keynes Central Library, Saturday 9th November 2013



Geophysical survey in progress on
Bury Field Common, Newport Pagnell

www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/planning-and-building/conservation-and-archaeology

Talks in the Local Studies library

- 11am Carry On Trowelling: The history of archaeology on film and TV - Paul Blinkhorn, Pottery expert and 'Time Team' member
- 2pm Forensic Archaeology: UK and International
Cecily Cropper, Forensic Archaeologist,
MFL Archaeology
Please note: This talk is not suitable for younger children

In the Lending Library:

- 10am - 3pm Hands-on Archaeology Workshops: Ages 8+, ASC Ltd host drop-in sessions
- Discover MK Archaeology in Milton Keynes Exhibition

In the Library Foyer:

- Finds ID by the Portable Antiquities Scheme team
- CLASP, UNAS & Wing Heritage Project displays
- Finds displays by Magiovinium Metal Detector Club

In the Children's Library:

- 11am - 11.30am 'Digging Dinosaurs': Stories, Songs & Rhymes, age 7 and under

For more information:

Phone: **01908 254259** or

Email: archaeology@milton-keynes.gov.uk

The event is FREE and open to all

Full programme here:

www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/planning-and-building/conservation-and-archaeology