

Dig it yourself

A HIGHLIGHT of the Museum of London's summer activities has been *The Dig*, an indoor recreation of an archaeological excavations in which children and parents or carers can take part (see *front cover*). This gives participants an opportunity to excavate a mixture of real and replica Roman objects, while an accompanying exhibition explains why archaeology is so important in London, and how archaeologists know where to dig. The event closes at the end of October (see *Diary*).

New Gallery at the Museum of London

THE WORLD City Gallery, a new 19th-century gallery covering the period from the French Revolution to the First World War, will open at the Museum of London on 7 December. Over three thousand objects, many not previously exhibited, will form the centre of the display, which we hope to report in a future issue.

Inquiry into Archaeology

THE RECENTLY formed All Party Parliamentary Archaeology Group is currently calling for submissions regarding "The Current State of Archaeology in the United Kingdom". Submissions are welcome from all individuals and organisations with an interest in archaeology. The full notes for submission are available on the CBA website at www.britarch.ac.uk/cba/appga_sub.html. Further details of the Group can be found at www.sal.org.uk. Submissions and other inquiries should be sent to jamesa@parliament.uk, by the deadline of 30 November (individuals) or 15 January (groups).

Virtually the Ice Age

A NEW website, *Virtually the Ice Age*, was launched in July by a partnership of the British Museum, Creswell Heritage Trust and Derby Museum and Art Gallery, supported by the DCMS ICT Challenge Fund, the European Regional Development Fund and the Coalfields Regeneration Trust. Creswell Crags, a beauty spot in Nottinghamshire at the heart of what was one of

Britain's major coalfields, is one of Europe's most important archaeological landscapes, preserving the only cluster of Ice Age caves in the UK. Between 70,000 and 10,000 years ago, the caves and fissures of the crags provided shelter for Neanderthal and anatomically modern people through a crucial period of human evolution. Since the 1880s, excavations have produced a wealth of evidence from which can be interpreted what life was like for hunters at the edge of Europe. Britain's oldest known work of art, a fine engraving of a horse found in Robin Hood Cave, connects us with the great era of cave paintings on the continent.

Users of the website can access a wide range of evidence collected and used by archaeologists over many years, and now kept in thirty museums around the UK. The website also includes a virtual tour of the limestone gorge and selected cave sites, a series of pages exploring Stone Age people, the climate and environment of the Ice Age, and the archaeologists who excavated the sites. It can be found at <http://www.creswellcrags.org.uk/virtuallytheiceage/index.html>.

Local Studies Resources Packs

THE NATIONAL Monuments Record (NMR), the public archive of English Heritage, has announced the launch of this new service. Each pack consists of three different aerial photographs of a chosen area, laser copied onto A3 size paper, an index of the listed buildings in the area, and full listings of the archaeology of the area. The purchaser can choose the area covered by specifying an address, location or OS grid reference. The photographs will be copied from the NMR's collection of vertical photographs, mostly black and white, taken between 1945 and 1975, and the total cost of the pack is £15 including VAT. More information can be obtained from NMR Enquiry and Research Services, Local Studies Resource Park, English Heritage, NMRC, Kemble Drive, Swindon SN2 2GZ, tel. 01793 414 600, fax 01793 414 606, email nmrinfo@english-heritage.org.uk.

Excavations and post-excavation work

City of London. Museum of London Archaeology Service, Mortimer Wheeler House, 46 Eagle Wharf Road, London N1 7ED (020 7410 2200).

Croydon & District, processing and cataloguing of excavated and museum collections every Tuesday throughout the year. Archaeological reference collection of fabric types, domestic animal bones, clay tobacco pipes and glass ware also available for comparative work. Enquiries to Jim Davison, 28 Blenheim Park Road, South Croydon, CR2 6BB.

Greater London, by Museum of London Archaeology Service. Excavations and processing in all areas. General enquiries to MOLAS, Mortimer Wheeler House, 46 Eagle Wharf Road, London N1 7ED (020 7410 2200).

Borough of Greenwich. Cataloguing of excavated and other archaeological material, the majority from sites in the borough. For further information contact Greenwich Borough Museum, 232 Plumstead High Street, SE18 1JT (020 8855 3240).

Hammersmith & Fulham, by Fulham Archaeological Rescue

Group. Processing of material from the Borough. Tuesdays, 8.00 p.m.-10 p.m. at Fulham Palace, Bishop's Avenue, Fulham Palace Road, SW6. Contact Keith Whitehouse, 85 Rannoch Road, W6 9SX (020 7385 3723).

Kingston, by Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society (KUTAS). Processing and cataloguing of excavated and museum collections every Thursday (10 a.m.) at the North Kingston Centre, Richmond Road, Kingston upon Thames KT2 5PE. Enquiries 020 8546 5386.

Surrey, by Surrey County Archaeological Unit. Enquiries to Rob Poulton, Archaeological Unit Manager, Old Library Headquarters, 25 West Street, Dorking, RH4 1DE (01306 886 466).

Individual membership of the Council for British Archaeology includes 10 issues a year of British Archaeology, as well as the supplement CBA Briefing, which gives details of conferences, extra-mural courses, summer schools, training excavations and sites where volunteers are needed. The individual subscription rate of £24 p.a. includes postage; payment should be sent to C.B.A., Bowes Morrell House, 111 Walngate, York, YO1 2UA (01904 671417).