

Mosaic

Three hundred years of history

This year marks the 300th anniversary of the founding of the Society of Antiquaries of London, the oldest British learned society concerned with the study of the past. To mark the occasion, the exhibition *Making History* at the Royal Academy (see Diary) displays many treasures from the Society's collections, including a Yorkist processional cross recovered from the battlefield of Bosworth, the inventory of Henry VIII's possessions at the time of his death, and an early copy of Magna Carta. Also on show are paintings of ancient sites and landscapes by Constable, Turner, Blake, and a collection of English royal portraits from Henry VI to Mary Tudor. In addition, there are the only surviving visual records of objects long since lost or destroyed. The exhibition culminates in a special study of Stonehenge, revealing how our understanding of its history keeps on changing over time, thanks to the process of research and to new discoveries such as a recently unearthed late medieval drawing of the megaliths, never before seen in this country.

The Society has also organised a Tercentenary Lecture Series. The first lecture, by Dr David Starkey, took place in London on 26 September. Subsequent lectures will take place in Dublin, Edinburgh, Cambridge, Liverpool, and Cardiff, culminating in a joint lecture, *The Future of the Past*, by Professor Richard Bradley, Professor David Cannadine, and Carenza Lewis, in the British Museum on 26 June 2008. Tickets are available from www.sal.org.uk or by phone from (020) 7479 7080.

Another celebration

A very successful party at the Museum of London celebrated the new-look *London Archaeologist* on Thursday 26 April. It was good to meet again so many people who had been involved in London's archaeology over the past 40 years. To judge by the length of the event, many old acquaintances were renewed and new friendships made. Our thanks go to all who helped to organise the event, and who devised the display of the history of the magazine.

London's green heritage

Six new walks and cycle rides are now freely available in the London Parks & Gardens Trust's series *London's Green Heritage*. Two recorded walks take a stroll through the historic squares of Bloomsbury and Belgravia, and introduce some of the colourful characters who have lived there over the years. They are available free of charge for MP3 download from the Trust's website at www.londongardenstrust.org. Also available are leaflets of walks covering

the Georgian and Victorian squares of Islington, and historic 18th-century landscapes which have become public parks in Winchmore Hill, Southgate and Palmers Green. Two new cycle ride leaflets explore historic parkland in Enfield and Sutton.

The series has been produced by a team of London Parks & Gardens Trust volunteers, with support from the Heritage Lottery Fund and English Heritage. Other leaflets already available are walks in the City, Hammersmith & Fulham, Lambeth and Southwark, and two linked cycle rides in Hackney, and from Bloomsbury to Shoreditch. Also part of the series is a booklet, *A Short History of London's Garden Squares*, which charts the development of squares from the 17th century to the present day, and looks at the enduring contribution these green spaces have made to London's landscape, and the challenges they have faced.

The leaflets and booklet can be ordered individually, or as a set. They can also be downloaded from www.londongardens.trust.org in a range of type sizes. To order printed copies, send an A5 stamped, addressed envelope, with a note of the publications required, to London Parks & Gardens Trust, Duck Island Cottage, St James's Park, London SW1A 2BJ. If ordering more than one leaflet, please stamp your envelope for 55p (100–250g).

Andante Awards

For the third consecutive year, Andante Travels invites applications from deserving archaeological projects for The Andante Travels Archaeological Award. With a cash prize value of £2,000, the award has simple criteria: that entries should help to protect, or discover more about, our archaeological heritage. Applicants are asked to describe their nomination on one page of A4, stating how the prize money would be spent and

how they believe it would help the project. It can be the applicant's own project or one that has impressed them, and the size of the project is not significant; all projects will be considered regardless of scale.

Previous recipients of this award have been Volubilis in Morocco, the monumental capital of the region in Roman times; and Kerkenes Dag, the largest pre-Hellenistic site on Turkey's Anatolian Plateau. In addition, smaller donations have gone to Nola in Campania, Italy, the UK's Roman glass furnace project, and Tel el Amarna in Egypt.

Applicants should submit their entry to Andante Travels Award 2007, The Old Barn, Old Road, Alderbury, Salisbury SP5 3AR (tel. 01722 713 800). The closing date is 9 November and the successful applicant will be advised by 7 December.

For further information on the company visit www.andantetravels.co.uk.

Dinosaurs promoted

The Victorian dinosaurs of Crystal Palace Park have been promoted from their Grade II designation to the elite Grade I status. The 1850s sculptures are significant as reconstructions of dinosaur species that had only recently been discovered when Benjamin Waterhouse Hawkins built them out of brick and artificial stone on a framework of iron rods. The listing has also been extended to include the surrounding landscape, known as the Dinosaur Court, which includes a reconstruction of the geological strata of the lead mine from which the dinosaur bones derived.

London Archaeological Web Prize 2007

This prize, sponsored by SCOLA and London Archaeologist, has been won by the City of London Archaeological Society. Our congratulations go to all concerned.



Guests at the Museum of London for the London Archaeologist re-launch party (Photo: John Brown)