

WINTER  
2009

# CBA LONDON NEWSLETTER

THIS IS THE FIRST  
CBA LONDON  
NEWSLETTER TO  
COME AS AN INSERT  
WITHIN LONDON  
ARCHAEOLOGIST

WE THOUGHT YOU'D  
BE INTERESTED TO  
KNOW WHAT YOUR  
LOCAL REGIONAL  
GROUP OF THE  
COUNCIL FOR  
BRITISH  
ARCHAEOLOGY WAS  
UP TO

CBA LONDON  
EXISTS TO PROMOTE  
PUBLIC ENJOYMENT  
AND  
UNDERSTANDING OF  
ARCHAEOLOGY IN  
LONDON

PLEASE FEEL FREE  
TO FORWARD THIS  
NEWSLETTER TO ANY  
INTERESTED  
FRIENDS, FAMILY OR  
COLLEAGUES

## FOBA 2009 – WHAT DID YOU DO?

The Festival of British Archaeology (FOBA) 2009 was one huge celebration of archaeology this summer. There were plenty of events across London, many of which were documented on the festival blog: [festival.britarch.ac.uk/blog](http://festival.britarch.ac.uk/blog)



Highlights in and around London included Enfield Archaeological Society at Forty Hall in Enfield (above) and the Hendon and District Archaeological Society at Avenue House in Finchley (below).



The Thames Discovery Programme (of which CBA London is a big supporter) laid on many events



including a family day on the foreshore at Fulham (pictured below). The TDP team escorted close to 100 people (including plenty of budding young archaeologists) along the foreshore throughout the day and everyone had a great time learning lots about the finds from the foreshore.



This brings us on to FOBA 2010 – where CBA London is here to help. Tell us about your plans and we'll help promote them so that they reach the widest audience of Londoners. We can also help you avoid schedule clashes with other events or maybe offer a bit of advice. Get in touch at [cbalondon@britarch.ac.uk](mailto:cbalondon@britarch.ac.uk).

## CBA LONDON GO TO SYON HOUSE



CBA London Trustee and director of excavations at Syon House, Harvey Sheldon, gave a lucky bunch of CBA London members a tour of this year's dig in July 2009.

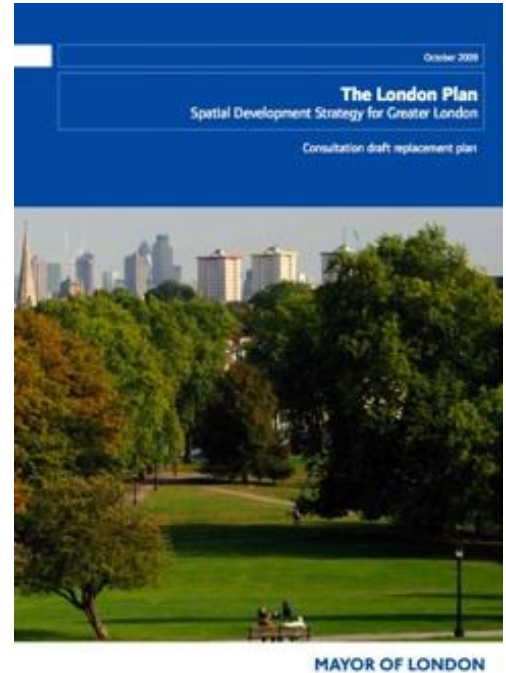
Knowing that CBA London members can be trusted Harvey allowed us through the barriers and into the trench so that he could show us the archaeology close up.

As you can see from the picture there was excellent weather and the group learned a lot about the long-running excavations. We also got to handle some of the fantastic finds from the site.

### HOT TOPIC 1:

#### MAYOR'S NEW LONDON PLAN

Boris Johnson, Mayor of London, recently published a draft revision to the London Plan. This is the Spatial Development Strategy for Greater London. Archaeology and heritage crop up in a few places. They even have their own section within the "London's Living Places and Spaces" chapter. Policy 7.8 (Heritage Assets and Archaeology) states the following:



#### **Strategic**

*A London's historic environment, including natural landscapes, conservation areas, heritage assets, World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Ancient Monuments and memorials should be identified, preserved and restored.*  
*B Development should incorporate measures that identify, record, interpret, protect and, where appropriate, present, the site's archaeology.*

#### **Planning decisions**

*C Development should preserve, refurbish and incorporate heritage assets, where appropriate.*  
*D New development in the setting of heritage assets, and conservation areas should be sympathetic to their form, scale, materials and architectural detail.*  
*E New development should make provision for the protection of archaeological resources and significant memorials. Where the artefact or memorial cannot be*

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO TAKE PART IN AN EXCAVATION IN OR NEAR LONDON THEN CHECK OUT THE "CBA BRIEFING" WITHIN THE LATEST COPY OF *BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGY* MAGAZINE

*moved from the site without damaging its cultural value, the assets should where possible be made available to the public on-site.*

***LDF preparation***

*F Boroughs should, in LDF policies, seek to maintain and increase the contribution of built heritage to London's environmental quality and economy while allowing for London to accommodate change and regeneration.*

*G Boroughs, in consultation with English Heritage, Natural England and other relevant statutory organisations, should include appropriate policies in their LDFs for identifying and protecting heritage assets scheduled ancient monuments, archaeological assets, memorials and natural landscape character within their area.*

There's plenty in the London Plan about tall buildings, regeneration, housing and climate change.

CBA London will be responding to the Draft London Plan. We would like to incorporate your views into our response. Is there something that you feel the Mayor has omitted? Do you think that the historic environment deserves a higher profile in the London Plan? Has the Mayor done the bare minimum or is this a long-overdue recognition of archaeology at City Hall? Send us your thoughts at [cbalondon@britarch.ac.uk](mailto:cbalondon@britarch.ac.uk). All comments must be received by Friday 8 Jan 2010 so that we can send our response to the Mayor by the deadline of 12 Jan.

**HOT TOPIC 2:**

**OLYMPICS AND ARCHAEOLOGY (CONTINUED...)**

The main Olympic site in Hackney and Newham has been one of the largest archaeological excavations in London for many years. The vast majority of the excavation and preliminary analysis of the site has been undertaken by a consortium of Museum of London Archaeology and Pre-Construct Archaeology.

This MOLA/PCA compact was designed to allow the entire site to be excavated in a holistic manner, combining the skills and experience of two of London's largest contracting units. It was a model that has been used before, most notably at the large Heathrow Terminal 5 excavations undertaken by Oxford and Wessex Archaeology.

CBA London has learned, to our surprise, that the Olympic Delivery Authority has awarded the contract for the site-wide assessment of the site (including dissemination of the site's interpretation) to a third company: Wessex Archaeology. This raises a lot of questions about the continuity of excavation and interpretation and CBA London will be seeking to ensure that the archaeology at the Olympic site is properly analysed and fully explained to the public, thereby ensuring a proper archaeological legacy from the 2012 London Olympics.

Meanwhile, at Greenwich Park, the proposed site of the equestrian events and home to some special archaeology (as well as being a World Heritage Site), there seems to be something of a stalemate.

Local protests have continued,

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IF YOU ARE READING THIS INSIDE THE PAGES OF LONDON ARCHAEOLOGIST THEN THE DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS TO US MAY HAVE PASSED. IF SO IT IS STILL WORTH SENDING YOUR COMMENTS ON THE LONDON PLAN TO THE MAYOR — AND BE SURE TO LET US KNOW WHAT YOU SAY.

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raising a diverse set of issues that range from car parking to tree-saving, and CBA London are still waiting to see a planning application from LOCOG which should indicate how the park will be utilized and how any negative effects on the archaeology in the park (including an Anglo-Saxon burial ground and a Roman temple) will be mitigated.

Watch this space and let us know what you think should be done.

#### **REPRESENT CBA LONDON ON THE LAMAS LISTED BUILDINGS COMMITTEE.**

The Committee meet once a month to assess Conservation Area and Listed Building Consent across London. This is your chance to influence planning decisions made in London. Perhaps you feel strongly that particular local authority are not protecting their built heritage and here's your chance to make a difference, maybe you feel there are too many tall buildings being built in London or were you someone who felt appalled that the British Museum were denied their extension thanks to the influence of local busybodies? Here's your chance to make sure your voice is part of the process.

Please contact CBA London at [cbalondon@britarch.ac.uk](mailto:cbalondon@britarch.ac.uk) and tell us why you'd like to represent us on the LAMAS committee. We'll make sure you have all the information you need.

#### **DO YOU WANT TO WORK FOR CBA LONDON?**

Very soon we'll be advertising for a paid assistant, to work for the group for one day a week, helping us with our campaigns and facilitating

archaeology in London. Visit our website for more details:  
[www.britarch.ac.uk/cbalondon](http://www.britarch.ac.uk/cbalondon)

#### **THAT'S ALL FOLKS...**

I hope you enjoyed this shorter, snappier CBA London Newsletter. Many of you will be reading this within the pages of London Archaeologist. For those that aren't we recommend getting a subscription straight away!

If you are reading this and are not yet a member of CBA London then please join up as the more members we have the stronger the voice for archaeology is in London. You can join CBA London by becoming a member of the Council for British Archaeology and opting for the London region as your region of choice.

To join visit [www.britarch.ac.uk/join](http://www.britarch.ac.uk/join)

As a CBA London member you will get invited to any CBA London events. We plan on organising a lot more visits to ongoing excavations, allowing you to get up close with the archaeology of London.

As a CBA London member you also get a discounted subscription to London Archaeologist – what a treat!

As ever, be sure to check our website:  
[www.britarch.ac.uk/cbalondon](http://www.britarch.ac.uk/cbalondon) and we'll hopefully see you at something archaeological very soon.

James Doerer

Secretary: CBA London

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