

# Mosaic

## Grants for London Museums

The Heritage Lottery Fund has made a £10 million grant for the new World Conservation and Exhibition Centre (WCEC) at the British Museum; £118m of the total project costs of £135m have now been raised. The centre is due to open in spring 2014 with a special exhibition on the Vikings. Funding from the HLF is intended to enhance the museum's outreach work: the BM currently lacks suitable spaces for visitors to go 'behind the scenes', but the WCEC will enable it to satisfy demand tours of the conservation studios and science laboratories, provide object-handling sessions and make improvements to the museum's public digital resources, including the broadcasting of object conservation work live via the internet. Excavation and piling work for the site of the new centre began a year ago. In parallel with this construction activity, work continues on the building's design: although the exterior and technical design elements are broadly in place, the design team is focusing on the interior and fit-out of the new building.

Smaller grants announced by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport and the Wolfson Foundation include:

- £200,000 for the British Museum to refurbish the Late Antique and Early Medieval Gallery, housing the Sutton Hoo helmet.
- £86,000 for the National Portrait Gallery to renovate three galleries on the top floor, creating space for changing displays of Tudor and Jacobean portraits.
- £100,000 for a new gallery that will showcase some of the 5000 printed posters and nearly 1000 original artworks in the collections of the London Transport Museum.
- £150,000 towards a new permanent display of baroque art, furniture, state beds and wall paintings at Hampton Court Palace.

## Grants for historic parks

The Heritage Lottery Fund has announced the award of a grant of £1.8 million to restore Forty Hall Park in Enfield. The aim is to restore and enhance the main elements of the historic landscape, revealing the site of Elsyng Palace (excavated in the 1960s) as well as the pleasure grounds. Forty Hall itself, currently being refurbished on a £4.5 million HLF grant, is due to re-open to the public this summer.

The HLF has also announced a grant of £2.4 million for Walpole Park in Ealing, which forms the backdrop to Grade I listed Pitzhanger Manor. The park's historic features include a Grade II\* listed rustic bridge, Portland stone bench and lodge building. The aim is to reveal the site's hidden heritage, and reunite Sir John Soane's Regency masterpiece with its landscape. The

HLF grant will restore the park to its original beauty and improve its visitor facilities. The park will undergo major conservation to recreate the Regency planting and reinstate the kitchen garden.

A third London park to benefit from HLF funding is Raphael Park in Romford, with a grant of £1.7 million. The park dates back to Saxon times, when it formed part of the Royal Manor serving the ancient Saxon palace at Havering. The land then became part of the Gidea Hall Estate from the 12th to the 19th centuries before being transformed into Romford's first public park at the turn of the 20th century by Sir Herbert Raphael. It also contains Black's Lake and the Grade II listed Black's Bridge, built in classical Georgian style by James Wyatt. The Heritage Lottery Fund grant will enable essential conservation work.

## SAM status for Scadbury?

Scadbury is a 300-acre estate in the London Borough of Bromley, which is known archaeologically for the remains of its Tudor moated manor house. The Orpington and District Archaeological Society (ODAS) has been involved with the site since a survey in 1982, and has excavated there since 1985. Within the island, they have excavated the foundations and cellars of the manor house and have consolidated some of them. West of the island there once stood Scadbury Park, which was demolished in 1975 after a fire. Excavations here revealed that the house could be dated back to the 16th century. The more recent excavations suggest that the moat (which may date to c. 1200 on the basis of pottery from the island) may have been narrowed in the Tudor period, perhaps reflecting a change of function. ODAS open the site to the public for one weekend each year (this year, 8–9th September). They are concerned that the crumbling Tudor brickwork will require extensive consolidation, and hope that if English Heritage decides to schedule the site, that will improve its chances of survival.

## Harmondsworth Barn bought by EH

Harmondsworth Barn, which is listed as a Grade 1 building and is ranked alongside the Houses of Parliament and Westminster Abbey for its historic value, has been bought by English Heritage for £20,000 to save it from neglect and decay. Built in 1426 by Winchester College, it has undergone some repairs, but remains largely as it was built. The structure resembles the nave of a large church, standing nearly 60m (200ft) long, 12m (40ft) wide, and 11m (36ft) high. The roof is held up by 13 huge oak trusses which rest on stone blocks; the timbers and stones bear the original carpenters' and masons' marks.

The barn would have been used to store grain from the surrounding manor, owned by the Bishop of Winchester, with profits from the produce going to pay for the school. It was used until the 1970s, but fell into disrepair under the ownership of an offshore company which had bought it in 2006. In 2009, English Heritage became concerned about the barn's deteriorating condition and issued an urgent works notice for emergency repairs to keep it water- and wind-tight. A dispute over payment for the emergency works led to English Heritage buying the barn for £20,000 at the end of last year. Staffed by volunteers, the barn will be open for free two Sundays a month between April and October, with plans to open it every Sunday from next year.

## Digitised diseases

In November 2011, the University of Bradford obtained a Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC) grant to carry out a project called *Digitised Diseases*. The project will use 3-D laser scanning, CT scans and high resolution photographs, together with new clinical descriptions and historical illustrations, to create a web-accessible archive of photo-realistic digital 3-D models of pathological type-specimens.

MOLA are collaborative partners on the project, together with the Royal College of Surgeons. They have taken delivery of a state-of-the-art laser scanner and will be making 3-D recording of key pathological specimens from their collection. For details visit [digitiseddiseases.wordpress.com/](http://digitiseddiseases.wordpress.com/)

## Transactions on the web

The London and Middlesex Archaeological Society has now put the first 56 volumes of its *Transactions* freely on the society's website, [www.lamas.org.uk/archives](http://www.lamas.org.uk/archives). There have been gaps when no journal appeared, but the first dated from 1860 and the last 2005. Subsequent volumes will be added five years after each journal appears in print. Each volume is a single PDF which can be downloaded, and the contents of each are given. Now every student of London has this large library at their fingertips.

## Jack Lohman to leave Museum of London for Royal British Columbia Museum

Jack Lohman stepped down as Director of the Museum of London in March 2012 to take up the role of Chief Executive and President of the Royal British Columbia Museum in Victoria in Canada. The governors of the Museum of London have begun the process of recruiting a new director.

# Diary

Please note that some societies anticipate a donation for attendance by non-members.

## April

**10** (7.30 p.m.) Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society. 'Excavations of Roman workshops at 8–10 Moorgate' by Alison Telfer. The Housing Co-op Hall, 106 The Cut, SE1.

**10** (8 p.m.) Hendon and District Archaeological Society. 'Conservation techniques in stone masonry' by Stephen Critchley. Avenue House, 17 East End Road, Finchley, N3.

**12** (8 p.m.) Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society. 'Roman Staines' by Nick Pollard. Mayo Hall, United Reformed Church, Union Street/Eden Street, Kingston.

**13** (8 p.m.) Richmond Archaeological Society. 'Southwark Cathedral' by Natalie Cohen. Vestry Hall, 21 Paradise Road, Richmond.

**14** (2.30 p.m.) Merton Historical Society. 'Calico printers' by David Cufley. Christ Church Hall, Christchurch Road, Colliers Wood.

**14** (3 p.m.) Carshalton & District History & Archaeology Society. 'The Oaks uncovered' by Paul Williams. Milton Hall, Cooper Crescent, Nightingale Road, Carshalton.

**17** (6.30 p.m.) London & Middlesex Archaeological Society. 'The Thames Tunnel: eighth wonder of the world?' by Robert Hulse. Clore Learning Centre, Museum of London.

**20** (8 p.m.) Enfield Archaeological Society. AGM and Excavations and Fieldwork of the EAS in 2011, by Martin Dearne and Mike Dewbrey. Jubilee Hall, junction of Chase Side and Parsonage Lane, Enfield.

**20** (8 p.m.) Richmond Archaeological Society. 'Southwark Cathedral' by Nathalie Cohen. Vestry Hall, 21 Paradise Road, Richmond.

**20** (7 p.m.) City of London Archaeological Society. 'A hidden landscape revealed: excavations at Syon' by Bob Cowie. St Olave's Hall, Mark Lane EC3R 7NB.

**25** (7.30 p.m.) Greenwich Historical Society. 'St Alfege Church 1012–2012, a thousand years of history'. Blackheath High School, Vanbrugh Park, Blackheath SE3 7AG.

## May

**4** (8 p.m.) Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society. 'The story of Brooklands'. St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell.

**8** (7.30 p.m.) Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society. 'Further work at Drapers Gardens' by Neil Hawkins. The Housing Co-op Hall, 106 The Cut, SE1.

**8** (8 p.m.) Hendon and District Archaeological Society. 'Bumps, bombs and birds: the history and archaeology of RSPB reserves' by Robin Standring. Avenue House, 17 East End Road, Finchley, N3.

**11** (8 p.m.) Richmond Archaeological Society. 'The playhouses of Shakespeare's

London' by Julian Bowsher. Vestry Hall, 21 Paradise Road, Richmond.

**14** (8 p.m.) West Essex Archaeological Group. 'Origin of our Species' by Chris Stringer. Assembly Hall, Woodford County High School, High Road, Woodford Green.

**15** (6.30 p.m.) London & Middlesex Archaeological Society. 'The Walbrook: its archaeology and history, a water engineer's view' by Stephen Myers. Clore Learning Centre, Museum of London.

**18** (8 p.m.) Enfield Archaeological Society. '19th-century clinker-built boat for 2012' by Amelia Fairman. Jubilee Hall, junction of Chase Side and Parsonage Lane, Enfield.

## June

**11** (7.45 p.m.) West Essex Archaeological Group. 'The cost of living in Rome' by Amelia Dowler. Assembly Hall, Woodford County High School, High Road, Woodford Green.

**12** (8 p.m.) Hendon and District Archaeological Society. AGM. Avenue House, 17 East End Road, Finchley, N3.

**15** (8 p.m.) Enfield Archaeological Society. 'Aspects of the development of Forty Hall' by Martin Dearne. Jubilee Hall, junction of Chase Side and Parsonage Lane, Enfield.

## Conferences

**Society for Clay Pipe Research**, 15–16th September at the Vine Baptist Church hall, Park Lane, Sevenoaks. Saturday: lectures on the Kent clay tobacco pipe industry, complemented by displays. Sunday: a visit to a local historical attraction. Non-members of the Society will be very welcome to attend. Further information is available on the Society website ([scpr.co](http://scpr.co)) or from Brian Boyden ([brian.boyden@dsl.pipex.com](mailto:brian.boyden@dsl.pipex.com)) or Chris Jarrett ([cjarrett@pre-construct.com](mailto:cjarrett@pre-construct.com)).

## Events

**Roman fort visit**, 2 to 2.30 p.m., 20th April, 18th May, 15th June, 20th July. At the Museum of London, free but tickets allocated on arrival.

**The Archaeological Archive by twilight**, 6.30 to 9 p.m., Friday 18th May at Mortimer Wheeler House. Curator-led tours and object handling. Tickets £6 in advance (concessions £5).

**Excavation taster weekends** at Copped Hall, near Epping, 14–15th, 21–22th, 28–29th July. For more information and booking visit [www.weag.org.uk](http://www.weag.org.uk).

## Exhibitions

**Dickens and London**, at the Museum of London, until 10th June. Tickets: adults £8 (£7 in advance), child/concessions £6 (£5 in advance), under 5s free. Range of flexible family tickets available. Book from Museum of London Box Office, tel. (020) 7001 9844.

**Our Londinium 2012**, at the Museum of London from 22nd June. A reinterpretation of the Museum's Roman Gallery. Admission free.

## Membership

Individual membership of the Council for British Archaeology, which includes six issues a year of *British Archaeology*, costs £29 p.a.; full price/renewal price £34 p.a. See [britarch.ac.uk/cba/membership/pricelist](http://britarch.ac.uk/cba/membership/pricelist) for details. Payment should be sent to CBA, St Mary's House, Bootham, York, YO30 7BZ (01904 671 417).

## Summer Schools

**Measured Survey for Cultural Heritage**, at Wrest Park, Silsoe, Beds., 9th–13th July.

Five-day residential course. For more information and an application form contact Sarah Prince on 01793 414 809 or [CHSS@english-heritage.org.uk](mailto:CHSS@english-heritage.org.uk).

**Five-day Field Schools at Copped Hall**, near Epping, 6–10th and 13–17th August. West Essex Archaeological Group and Copped Hall Trust. Ongoing excavation of a Tudor grand-house. Full details: [www.weag.org.uk](http://www.weag.org.uk).

**Kent Archaeological Field School**, week-end and week-long courses, excavations and field trips from May to November. For details visit [www.kafs.co.uk/](http://www.kafs.co.uk/), write to Kent Archaeological Field School, School Farm Oast, Graveney Road, Faversham, Kent ME13 8UP or phone 01795 532 548 or 078815 700 112.

## Workshops and study days

**Identifying and recording clay pipes**, tutor Jacqui Pearce, Saturday 21st April. Fee £60 incl. tea/coffee/lunch. Book: Museum of London Box Office (020 7001 9844), course details from Francis Grew:

[fgrew@museumoflondon.org.uk](mailto:fgrew@museumoflondon.org.uk) or Jacqui Pearce: [jpearce@museumoflondon.org.uk](mailto:jpearce@museumoflondon.org.uk).

## Practical archaeology

**AOC Archaeology**. Contact Post-Excavation Manager, Melissa Melikian (020 8843 7380).

**London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre**. Contact Archive Manager, Francis Grew (020 7566 9317).

**Croydon & District**. Contact Jim Davison, 8 Brentwood Road, South Croydon, CR2 0ND.

**Borough of Greenwich**. Contact Greenwich Heritage Centre (020 8854 2452).

**Hammersmith & Fulham**. Contact Keith Whitehouse (020 7385 3723).

**Kingston**. Enquiries to 020 8546 5386.

**Pre-Construct Archaeology**. Contact Finds Manager, Märit Gaimster (020 7639 9091).

**Surrey**. Enquiries to Rob Poulton, Archaeological Unit Manager, Surrey History Centre (01483 594 634).