

Mosaic

Dissent in Deptford

Recent work by MOLA on the site of the historic Deptford Dockyard at Convoy's Wharf (reported in *LA 13* no. 3 (2011/12) 84) has revealed that far more archaeology survives than was thought, including impressive 18th-century dockyard walls and slipways and the ground floor and cellars of Sayes Court, home to the diarist and horticulturalist John Evelyn.

Such is the strength of local feeling in favour of retaining and restoring evidence of the site's past use that Lewisham Council has sent back the initial planning application for further thought, saying that the master plan was not 'sensitive enough to the unique heritage assets of the dockyard'. The developers, Hutchinson Whampoa, have therefore called in Sir Terry Farrell to look at redrawing the master plan.

The CBA has convened a panel of independent experts from the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society, the Naval Dockyards Society, the Garden History Society, and the Panel for Historic Engineering Works. With the local campaign group *Deptford Is*, the CBA has offered to 'assist the developers and English Heritage in their understanding and enhancement of the dockyard and its remarkable history ... with the aim of achieving a better, heritage-led scheme that delivers wider public benefit and a more sophisticated approach to this internationally important site'.

The events that Deptford witnessed included the refitting of the *Mary Rose*, the knighting of Sir Francis Drake by Elizabeth I aboard the *Golden Hind* in 1581 and the rebuilding of Cook's *Endeavour* in 1768.

Return to Syon Park

Every year the Museum of London coordinates a community and training dig. This year's will be in the historic Syon Park, Hounslow. The community dig, open to school parties and local groups, ran from 25th June to 7th July. The training dig, for individuals and students 18+ keen to gain practical experience on an archaeological excavation, runs from 9th to 20th July.

The investigations will focus on the area of Sir Richard Wynne's house,

near London Road. Sir Richard was a Parliamentarian. In 1659 he was implicated in the Royalist insurrection and was imprisoned for a spell. The house was bought by the Duke of Northumberland and demolished in the 19th century to extend Syon's parkland.

Archaeological exploration of the site provides an opportunity to reveal the remains of the house and its grounds. It is also close to the main Roman highway that led west from the capital. Previous excavations here have exposed much Roman archaeology and hopes are high for more Roman finds.

The community and training excavations are run in collaboration with the Museum of London, Syon Park and MOLA. Details are in *Diary*.

Historic funeral in Southwark

The funeral service of the 'unknown parishioner' took place at Southwark Cathedral on Friday 8th June, to represent the remains found during excavations by Network Rail as part of Thameslink rail improvements around London Bridge.

The remains of over 330 people, most dating from the early 19th century, were removed from the site of the former St. Saviour's Almshouse burial ground and were reburied in a special plot in the new Kennal Park Cemetery near Chislehurst.

The cathedral worked with Network Rail and funeral directors F A Albin & Sons, to ensure the funeral and burials were respectful and echoed how funerals were conducted at the time of the original burials. The body of the 'unknown parishioner' was placed under a monument which will commemorate all those reburied there.

Steaming ahead

The Kew Bridge Steam Museum has received a confirmed grant of £1.485 million from the Heritage Lottery Fund for a restoration project. *Project Aquarius* will provide new and improved visitor facilities, finish repairs to the historic buildings, install additional displays (including new outdoor water-based interactives), add modern interpretation, and develop new education, community outreach and volunteer development

programmes. It will enable the Museum to offer a more exciting, interesting and enjoyable programme to the widest possible audience, and enhance the Museum's contribution to the local community. The museum now needs to raise the remaining £186,000 match funding so that work can start.

The Museum currently opens six days a week, with the pumping engines operating most weekends. Further details are at www.kbsm.org.

A visit to the Theatre

Finds from Shakespeare's Theatre in Shoreditch are on display at Hackney Museum as part of the *Mapping the Change* exhibition until 15 September, which will include a special section on the Theatre site and a selection of objects found there. They include a fragment of 16th-century pottery featuring the image of a man with beard and ruff, decorative medieval tiles from Holywell Priory, roof tiles that are some of the last remaining fragments of the Theatre, pipes and drinking vessels that playgoers may have used during performances, a 17th-century crucible and mortar from the alchemist's workshop, and Victorian domestic items including a well-used toothbrush.

The Theatre was built in 1576 by James Burbage; its location was confirmed by MOLA's. Shakespeare wrote and performed there between 1594 and 1597; *Romeo and Juliet* was almost certainly premiered there and was written to be performed in *The Theatre*, as details of the stage layout in the script show. In 1597, after a disagreement between the Burbages and their landlord, the wooden structure was dismantled and taken south of the river to become part of *The Globe* theatre. See *Diary* for more details.

New Director for the Museum of London

The Museum's new director will be Sharon Ament, currently Director of Public Engagement at the Natural History Museum, where she has been since the year 2000, having previously worked for London Zoo and the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust. She will take up the post in September.

Diary

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

July

18 (8 p.m.) Bexley Archaeological Group. 'The dregs of the people remain: the Black Death and its aftermath' by Imogen Corrigan. Conservative Club, 19 Station Road, Sidcup.
20 (7 p.m.) City of London Archaeological Society. 'Excavations 1986–88 at the London Mint' by Ian Grainger. St Olave's Parish Hall, Mark Lane EC3.

August

1 (8 p.m.) Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society. Members' evening. St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell.

September

5 (8 p.m.) Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society. 'Medieval leper hospital in Winchester' by Julie Wileman. St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell.
10 (7.45 p.m.) West Essex Archaeological Group. 'Mithras in Britain' by John Shepherd. Sixth Form Block, Woodford County High School, High Road, Woodford Green.
14 (8 p.m.) Richmond Archaeological Society. 'Oh rats, it's the black death!' by Barney Sloane. Vestry Hall, 21 Paradise Road, Richmond.

October

3 (8 p.m.) Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society. 'So you want to research your family history' by Bert Barnhurst. St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell.
8 (7.45 p.m.) West Essex Archaeological Group. 'Finding Neanderthal tools in Norfolk' by Ken Ashton. Sixth Form Block, Woodford County High School, High Road, Woodford Green.
9 (8 p.m.) Hendon & District Archaeological Society. 'The life and legacy of George Peabody' by Christine Wagg. Avenue House, 17 East End Road, Finchley, N3.
18 (8 p.m.) Bexley Archaeological Group. 'Egyptology' by Elizabeth Chappell. Conservative Club, 19 Station Road, Sidcup.

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) or from Brian Boyden (brian.boyden@dsl.pipex.com) or Chris Jarrett (cjarrett@pre-construct.com).
Marking Past Landscapes, and CBA SE AGM, 2 to 5 p.m., Saturday 13th October at the Large Hall, Dorking Christian Centre, Dorking. Tickets £10 for non-members, £8

for members and students. Bookings from: Mrs R Hooker, 59 Thornton Place, Horley, Surrey RH6 8RZ
 rosemary.hooker@blueyonder.co.uk.

Courses

The Archaeology of Most Ancient Egypt, arranged by the Mill Hill Archaeological Study Society, at the Eversfield Centre, 11 Eversfield Gardens, Mill Hill NM7 2AE. 10 a.m. to 12 a.m. Fridays beginning 28th September. Tutor: Scott McCracken. Cost: £130 for 20 2-hour classes. Enrol at the first meeting; if you have not previously attended the Society's meetings please contact the Secretary: Peter Nicholson, (020) 8959 4757, www.mhass.co.uk.

Events

Butser Ancient Farm, weekend events throughout the summer and autumn. Details from Butser Ancient Farm, Chalton Lane, Chalton, PO8 0BG, tel. 02392 598 838, www.butserancientfarm.co.uk.

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.

Festival of British Archaeology, join staff at the Museum of London for an exploration into the vital role that ceramics have played in the history of the capital. Discover how pots were made and why, and try crafting your own. A special weekend of family activities will take place on 21st and 22nd July. For more information please contact Nicola Kalimeris on 020 7814 5511 or nkalimeris@museumoflondon.org.uk.

Exhibitions

Our Londinium 2012, at the Museum of London. A reinterpretation of the Museum's Roman Gallery. Admission free.
Mapping the Change, at Hackney Museum until 15th September. Includes finds from one of the earliest of London's playhouses, *The Theatre*, built in 1576 by James Burbage. More information from www.hackney.gov.uk/cm-museum.htm.

Membership

Individual membership of the Council for British Archaeology, which includes six issues a year of *British Archaeology*, costs £34 p.a. See 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

Bexley Archaeological Group Training Excavation, 30th July to 3rd August. Cost £150 for the week. For bookings, contact Pip Pulfer, tel. 07961 963 893, email pipspad@hotmail.co.uk, for further information visit www.bag.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.
Kent Archaeological Field School, week-end and week-long courses, excavations and field trips until November. For details visit 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.

Syon Park Training Excavation, 9th to 13th and 16th to 20th July. Cost £195 per week. For more information contact Kath Creed or Kate Sumnall, tel. (020) 7814 5733, email communityarchaeology@museumoflondon.org.uk or visit www.museumoflondon.org.uk/London-Wall/Whats-on/Adult-events/Syon.htm.

Workshops and study days

Butser Ancient Farm, workshops in traditional skills, metalworking, art, herbs and cookery. Details from Butser Ancient Farm, Chalton Lane, Chalton, PO8 0BG, tel. 02392 598 838, www.butserancientfarm.co.uk.

Local History in Schools, 2 to 5 p.m., 17th October, in the Clore Learning Centre, Museum of London. Cost £10. People with experience in this field who would be prepared to offer a short contribution should contact Eileen Bowlt at c.bowl@tiscali.co.uk or tel. 01895 638 060.

Egyptology, 17th November, led by Elizabeth Chappell for the Bexley Archaeology Group. Agenda for the day to be confirmed. Cost is £20 (£15 to members).

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).