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Ironhouse Bastle (Copyright Mitchell Pollington)

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Editor

Ian Colquhoun



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NORTHUMBERLAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

THE NORTHUMBERLAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP (NAG) exists to provide opportunities for members of the public to take part in archaeological activities relating primarily to the study of the archaeology of Northumberland and surrounding areas. NAG undertakes its own fieldwork projects and occasionally supports other projects undertaken by members. A lecture programme, social events and a series of excursions are organised each year, and members receive *Northern Archaeology* which is published occasionally. *Northern Archaeology* is also available by subscription to non-members.

MEMBERSHIP. All enquiries about membership should be addressed to the Membership Secretary, Sheila Day, at 35, Park Crescent East, North Shields NE30 2HQ. Membership for 2010-11 costs £12 (single), £15 (joint or family) or £2 (student or unemployed, not including a copy of Northern Archaeology).

NORTHERN ARCHAEOLOGY is the NAG journal and includes a variety of papers concentrating principally on the archaeology of Northumberland and adjacent areas. Occasional special editions are published to cover particular themes. All communications regarding contributions to the journal should be addressed to the Editor at Colquhouni@aol.com or 33 Blackdene, Ashington, Northumberland NE63 8TL. All potential contributors are encouraged to consult the Editor as early as possible when considering the preparation of a paper or short note, and should be aware that Northern Archaeology is prepared for publication on a home computer. Any enquiries about back numbers should be sent to the Editor at the address above.

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Editorial

This much awaited volume of *Northern Archaeology* is only the third this century. It continues the well established tradition of previous issues of providing a platform for fieldwork projects and articles concentrating on the north of England and especially on Northumberland, the most northerly (and most beautiful) of English counties.

The variety and quality of articles since the first volume hit the bookshelves in 1980 has been remarkable. As someone who teaches local archaeology, I am forever dipping into past volumes and finding invaluable forgotten (forgotten by me, at any rate) articles and golden nuggets of information. I have been helped in this search by Margaret Maddison's excellent indices, the latest of which is included in this volume. Articles in *Northern Archaeology volume 21* encompass a fittingly wide time scale, stretching from the Mesolithic through the Neolithic and Bronze Age to the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries AD.

This chronologically broad spectrum was one of the original aims of Northern Archaeology and will continue in future. There is an enormous amount of fieldwork and research taking place in northern England and *Northern Archaeology* will continue to reflect and applaud the efforts being made by all those involved, NAG members, professionals and amateurs.

Ian Colquhoun



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