

BEDFORDSHIRE  
ARCHAEOLOGY  
VOLUME 26 2010

BEDFORDSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL COUNCIL

This volume is dedicated to  
John Bailey 1936–2008

*Edited by Hester Cooper-Reade and David Ingham*

ISSN 0958-191X  
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Designed and produced by 4word Ltd, Bristol

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## **Editorial note**

After a gap of just over five years it seems fitting that this bumper volume has been published to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the Bedfordshire Archaeological Council. There have been a number of reasons for the long gap in publication and although at one point we were short of articles, the principle reason is simply one of time. To this end I am extremely grateful to my colleague, David Ingham, who has acted as joint editor and been instrumental in driving things forward towards final publication. With a number of articles now waiting for the next volume we can announce that such a long gap in publication is unlikely to happen for the foreseeable future.

Sadly this volume contains the obituaries of two stalwarts of Bedfordshire archaeology: John Bailey and Angie Simco; both of whom have contributed immensely to the understanding of the county's archaeology. This volume contains a re-print of John Bailey's seminal article on the development of carpentry in Bedfordshire, first published in 1998.

James Dyer has contributed his own personal view of the first 50 years of the Council and although we can reflect on the differences between the world into which the Council was born and the one we are working in now, there are still many challenges to face. Whatever one's views of the impact of privately-funded developer archaeology, the archaeological profession remains committed to undertaking good archaeology and publishing results; indeed public dissemination is now more strongly enshrined in the planning system with the publication of PPS5. Commercial funding does of course mean that a large part of the volume is self-financing and although, as already alluded to, there may be differing views of the post-1991 rise of archaeology-as-a-business, the Bedfordshire Archaeological Council welcomes the submission of articles from all sectors. It is, however, important that anyone undertaking archaeological research does consider how the work will be funded and published, particularly if that work involves intrusive fieldwork.

The Bedfordshire Archaeological Council remains the only formal grouping of curatorial, voluntary and commercial archaeologists based in the historic county of Bedfordshire and whilst there is much future debate to be had on the role of the Archaeological Council and the way in which archaeological results should be disseminated in an accessible and informative way, it is hoped that this new volume will help give that much needed boost.

Hester Cooper-Read



## Notes on Contributors

**Joe Abrams**, BA, MifA is a Project Manager at Albion Archaeology. He graduated from University College London with a degree in archaeology. Joe is responsible for the implementation, management and academic publication of a wide variety of historic environment projects. Has experience of a wide variety of archaeological work, including excavation and post-excavation analysis.

**Lynden Cooper**, BA is a Project Officer for the University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS). He has interests in the Early Upper Palaeolithic, and in 2005–07 was the joint manager of the National Ice Age Network in the East Midlands.

**James Dyer**, D.Arts, MA, FSA was a founder member of the Bedfordshire Archaeological Council in 1959, and of the Institute for Archaeologists. Born in Bedfordshire in 1934, he has worked in education and archaeology all his life. He has excavated in many parts of Britain, as well as Denmark and Greenland. He was Editor for ten years of 'The Bedfordshire Magazine' and is the author of more than two dozen books on archaeology and local history. He is Editor of the 'Shire Archaeology' series of books, ninety of which have appeared since their inception in 1974.

**Catherine Edwards**, BA, AIfA is a Project Officer with AOC Archaeology Group and manages archaeological projects in the field, regularly liaising with consultants, clients and regional archaeological monitors. Following her graduate qualification in archaeology in 1999, Catherine has established 11 years of fieldwork expertise and supervision. She has supervised complex urban and rural occupation contexts together with cemetery excavations, and she has a keen interest in research work abroad and in the UK. Catherine is committed to the dissemination of archaeological investigations and her publication record includes both excavation and geoarchaeological reporting spanning the Saxon period right through to the post-medieval period.

**Terry Hopkinson** is Lecturer in Archaeology at the University of Leicester. He specializes in the Lower-Middle Palaeolithic transition and also has interests in Neanderthals and modernity. In 2005–07 he was the joint manager of the National Ice Age Network in the East Midlands.

**David Ingham**, MSt, MifA is a Project Officer with Albion Archaeology. He has worked in Bedfordshire and the surrounding counties since 2001, and has managed a range of fieldwork and post-excavation projects.

**Mike Luke**, BSc, MifA is a Project Manager at Albion Archaeology. He graduated from the University of Wales (Cardiff) with a degree in archaeology. Has experience of a wide variety of archaeological work, including excavation, post-excavation analysis and publication. He has produced several articles on Iron Age and Roman sites in previous volumes of *Bedfordshire Archaeology*. He has published through East Anglian Archaeology the results of extensive archaeological investigations within the Biddenham Loop.

**Anthony Maull**, Cert. Arch. is a Senior Project Officer with Northamptonshire Archaeology. He joined Bedfordshire County Council Archaeological Services in 1984, where he was involved in numerous excavations, including urban sites within the historic core of Bedford and the Roman small town of Sandy. He joined Northamptonshire Archaeology in 1998 and has directed and managed excavations across the Midlands and beyond, including the excavation of a medieval moated manor at Tempsford.

**Tracy Preece**, BA, AIfA is a Project Officer with Albion Archaeology. She has worked on a range of evaluation and open-area projects in Bedfordshire since 2000. In addition, she has extensive post excavation analysis experience which has resulted in a number of forthcoming publications.

**Dr. Mark Stephens** is Lecturer in Physical Geography at the University of the South Pacific, Fiji. He has interests in Quaternary geology and geoarchaeology, and in 2006–07 was the East Midlands Project Officer of the National Ice Age Network.

**Charlotte Walker**, BSc, AIfA is a Senior Supervisor with Northamptonshire Archaeology. Charlotte joined Northamptonshire Archaeology in 1998 as an excavator and progressed to project supervisor, leading several fieldwork projects. She also has been part of the Historic Environment Team within Northamptonshire County Council, and now works on the preparation and editing of client and publication reports.

**Nigel Wilson**, HND, AIfA studied at the Dorset Institute of Higher Education. He has supervised for a number of archaeological organisations on numerous fieldwork projects throughout the UK, ranging in date from the Mesolithic period to World War II sites. Formerly a Project Officer for Archaeological Services & Consultancy, Nigel now works as a freelance archaeologist

**Bob Zeevat**, BA, MIfA is a graduate of Leicester University. As a member of the former Milton Keynes Archaeology Unit, he excavated and published several major sites in the new city before joining Archaeological Services & Consultancy, where he is currently Manager. Bob's main interests are the Roman and medieval periods, historic buildings and industrial archaeology.