# **BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY MUSEUM TRUST**

## JANUARY - DECEMBER 2019

2019 has been a landmark year for the County Museum Trust, with several significant changes including the development work for the proposed new 'Discover Bucks Galleries', after appointing principal designers Gibson Thornley in December 2018. By the end of 2019, several layouts had been investigated and a final design agreed to cover five new galleries replacing the old 'Touch of Bucks' galleries within the current footprint:

- Discover Bucks Geology: 200 million years ago to the appearance of people in Bucks
- Discover Bucks Archaeology: Prehistoric to medieval times
- Discover Bucks People: the last 500 years of Bucks People
- Discover Art: the first permanent art gallery with changing landscapes and contemporary art
- Discover Wildlife: showing the biodiversity of animals and plants in Bucks.

Spectacular finds and star objects from the collections are planned to go on show permanently such as the Watermead Pliosaur, Ice Age animals, a 300 year old Bronze Age sword in perfect condition, the 'Aston Clinton Princess' Anglo-Saxon skeleton, costume from the textile collections, the Euphonicon (Victorian piano with a harp on top) famous Bucks artists such as John Piper, Paul and John Nash and Samuel Rowlinson as well as parades of familiar animals with variation such as orange or albino badgers, birds of prey and a poplar tree representing the 50% of UK poplars in Bucks.

Around three-quarters of the fundraising target, raising around one million pounds, had been reached by December and it is hoped that the final design work and installation will be completed by Christmas 2020.

**Multi-Media Guides:** Another significant achievement in 2019 was the production of the first multimedia guide based around the story of Cecily Baker, first curator of the museum, who lived in the museum building with her family for the first half

of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. ATS Heritage were appointed in January 2019 to develop family and adult guides based on photo archive material, some artefacts such as Cecily's toys and oral histories taken from Cecily Baker aged 80, covering her memories of living in the house and of events taking place in Aylesbury over that time. The guides are done in the style of a radio play and include interaction with visitors to allow them to explore photos, interact with key characters and find out more about what was going on in the town. The guides were launched in September and are centred round the Georgian Room as a way of telling the story about the building and its residents in a room that cannot have permanent exhibits, due to its use for weddings.

**Schools:** We welcomed Serena Avery as our new Creative Engagement and Learning Manager in September after Sarah Jones moved onto another role. Serena is introducing a number of new history workshops for schools, including a pilot Anglo-Saxon workshop which will be enhanced by the new content in the 'Discover Bucks' gallery.

**Weddings:** Following the registration of the Museum as a wedding venue we have hosted five weddings, mostly using the Georgian Room for ceremonies and the Learning Zones for larger weddings and receptions. Bucks Craft Guild has formed a retail partnership with the Museum to sell the work of key artists in the Guild through the Museum shop in order to showcase local artists and boost the Museum's self-generated income.

**Changes to staffing structure:** In March 2019, a new Assistant Director post was established to assist with operations as the Museum expansion plans developed. Martin Byrne was appointed, with a remit to cover the operation of the museum, lead the visitor services team and develop selfgenerated income. Another new post of Facilities Officer was established in the autumn: in October the role was taken up by Tony Mardell to oversee health and safety provision and monitoring as the demands in these areas increase with the expanded operations.

Artist in Residence: The bi-annual Muir Trust Residency took place in the autumn with artist Kate Surridge, who chose to represent archaeology through creation of metalwork pieces and the way objects are cared for in store in her workshops and final exhibition. She also ran a pilgrim badge workshop casting metal badges in October.

**NPO:** Key achievements for the Museum in its second year of National Portfolio Organisation status was the Community Voices temporary exhibition from May to July and associated programme events such as Celebrating Communities, showcasing different aspects of community life including faith, language and music. Community Voices featured 15 different communities and 52 donors who loaned or donated objects that reflected their lives in Bucks today, with interpretations written in their own words. Three 'Touch Tours' and one 'Hearing Action' tour were delivered around the exhibition programme for the year, including Community Voices and Katie Surridge's Muir Trust artist in residence exhibition.

## PARTNERSHIPS

**Milton Keynes Museum:** many of the archaeology objects belonging to Milton Keynes that have been kept in BCMT stores have now been returned to Milton Keynes Museum. Plans are developing to return the remainder of the MK artefacts currently owned by BCC to Milton Keynes in early 2020.

**National Paralympic Heritage Trust:** work continues sorting and accessioning the British Paralympic Association collection.

**The Embroiderers' Guild:** collections care work continues at Halton with the team of volunteers. This has included several new acquisitions and one artefact loan to an exhibition put on by the Guild in another venue.

# BUCKS CULTURAL STRATEGY

Lallie Davis was appointed as the new Bucks Cultural Outreach Officer in April and is based

at the Museum, although working county wide. Five task and finish groups were set up on different themes agreed by the current steering committee and two large regional events were held at Waddesdon in July and in High Wycombe in November at the official launch of the Strategy, to finalise the plans for action in Year 2 of the Strategy delivery in 2020. Current Chair Milly Soames led recruitment for two new joint chairs: Julius Weinberg and Bill Morris were appointed in November to help actively push forward the development and delivery of the strategy. The community engagement partnership with eight other heritage organisations and BCC libraries worked together to engage different communities through exploring well-being, autism, family learning and refugee communities through museum objects and spaces.

#### COLLECTIONS

Archaeology: Twenty-one archives have been notified, and two very large archives have been deposited but not yet catalogued. Eight small items of Treasure have been accessioned, including a Saxon hooked tag, a Roman ring and a 16<sup>th</sup>-century silver dress pin. In addition, forty-eight individually donated objects including prehistoric flint tools, Iron Age pottery and a bronze medieval purse fitting have been catalogued onto the database.

In September BCMT arranged a loan of archaeological archive material from St Dunstan's Church, Monks Risborough, to the Centre for Bucks Studies, who are displaying it as their "archive of the month". Other short-term loans for scientific analysis have been arranged to researchers who are looking at Bronze Age pottery from Ivinghoe, and environmental samples from an excavation at Swanbourne.

We have been notified of fifty new archaeological excavation archives, which will be deposited (as part of the BCC collection) once the research and publication has been completed to the satisfaction of the county archaeologist. Six Treasure items have been acquired by BCMT, including a small hoard of 16<sup>th</sup> century silver coins, and a gold early medieval mount.

**Portable Antiquities Scheme:** In 2018 the PAS recorded 69,687 objects and processed 1097 treasure cases nationally. 1,347 finds and 30

treasure cases were recorded in Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes. Highlights acquired for the Museum in 2018 include the Early Medieval Bisham assemblage, part of an emergency excavation carried out by the Finds Liaison Officer of a possible Early Medieval burial across the border in Berkshire. As a result of this the FLO spoke on the discovery at the ICON conference in December to promote best practice in metal detecting.

Outreach continued in 2018, with two Roman sessions held at the museum and finds days held across the county. The FLO also attended the Milton Keynes Archaeology day. The FLO joined the PAS Wellbeing Group, and has been working with colleagues to improve standards within the Scheme. The FLO also attended the Finds Research Group conference in Durham and the Roman Finds Group Conferences in Canterbury and London, which gave both networking opportunities and a chance to learn about a variety of different finds.

## SOCIAL HISTORY

# Accessions

recessions	
2019.59	Final edition of the Buckingham-
	shire Examiner newspaper, 31 Jan.
	2019
2019.80	Patchwork bedspread made by
	Aylesbury tailor from samples of
	gentlemen's suit materials, late 19 <sup>th</sup>
	century
2019.81	Coat made by Aylesbury master
	tailor William Bridges to mark the
	Relief of Mafeking during the Boer
	War in 1900
2019.82-84	Printing items used by Frank
	Bridges during his apprentice-
	ship at Hazell, Watson & Viney in
	Aylesbury, 1897–1903
2019.97	Standing bell from Soka Gakkai
	International, a Buddhist society at
	Taplow Court
2019.98	Programme for the Ladies' Festival
	of the Freemasons' Vale Lodge on
	10 Nov. 1948
2019.105.1	LGBT metal badge
2019.106.1	Silver necklace in original gift box
2019.107.1	Islamic book in Arabic with
	English translation
2019.108.1-2	Two white cotton sheets worn as

	part of Ihram for the Hajj (Islamic
2019.109.1-6	pilgrimage to Mecca) Talking-book equipment for blind and visually impaired people

# Acquisitions

Acquisitions	
2018.112	Codd mineral water bottle
2018.113	Aylesbury music magazines
2018.114	WWI invitation and programme
2010.111	to Buckingham Palace for local
	soldier
2010 115 116	
2018.115-116	Two ceramic jugs and music book
	belonging to Amersham family
	when living in Bombay (Mumbai)
2018.117-119	Nasal irrigator, ear syringe and
	pestle & mortar from Great
	Missenden
2018.120	Smock from Aston Clinton
2018.121	Prize rosette from Bucks Agricul-
2010.121	tural Association
2018.122	Aylesbury Town Guidebook, c1976
2018.122	Photographs of construction of
2018.125	
0010 105	Civic Centre, Aylesbury c1975
2018.125	Embroidered sampler, 1892, Marsh
	Gibbon
2018.126-128	Shoe lasts/stretchers from Ivatts
	shoe shop, Aylesbury
2018.129-131	Medicine bottles from member of
	Ivatts family, Aylesbury
2018.132-134	Small enamelled badges with local
2010.152 151	connection
2018.135	Shoes worn by local man to both
2018.133	his wedding and his wife's funeral
2010 12	Collection of Brooke Bond Picture
2019.13	
	Card booklets from local resident
2019.17	'Fidget spinner' toy from local resi-
	dent
2019.18-21	Modern children's books and
	jigsaw puzzle from local resident
2019.41	Framed reproduction print of
	Aylesbury Town Plan from 1809
2019.42-46	Selection of archive items (Ayles-
2019.12 10	bury Swimming Club card,
	Hazell's printer's handbook, etc)
2010 52	
2019.52	Large quilted patchwork artwork,
	1999, partly inspired by c13 wall
	paintings in Radnage Church
Loans	
14 May 2018	loan of 17 <sup>th</sup> -century trade tokens to
-	Tring Local History Museum for
	•

23 May 2018	temporary exhibition Renewal of loan of 18 <sup>th</sup> -century metalware to Tring Local History Museum	201
31 May 2018	loan of Aylesbury duck silver goblet to the Aylesbury Club for their annual Duck Dinner	201
October 2018	Loan in of Rozanne Hawksley artwork for <i>100 Hearts</i> Exhibition	201
Nov. 2018	Loan in from Tring Local History Museum of objects and archive material for long-term storage	201
February 2019	Loan out of two Rozanne Hawk- sley embroidered works loaned to the Fashion Museum, Bath for	
February 2019	temporary exhibition until 2020 Loan out of c100 Embroiderers' Guild pieces for touring version of the <i>Beautiful Stitch</i> exhibition at Ely Cathedral. Returned in March 2019	201
January 2019	<b>Geology:</b> Loan of 13 marine reptile fossils for a small case display in Milton Keynes Library to accom- pany their new Caldecotte Ichthyo-	201
	saur panels produced by us.	201
Art		
Acquisitions 2019.1.1	Harvesting, by John Nash 1947, lithograph print, No. 20	201
2019.11.1	from School Prints 2nd series, (purchased by Friends of BCMT) <b>blown glass vase</b> by Jane Waller, late 1980s, blue, bubbled glass with enamel and ceramic oxides (donated by artist)	201
2019.11.2	<b>blown glass beaker</b> by Jane Waller, late 1980s, blue, bubbled glass with enamel and ceramic	201
2019.11.3	oxides (donated by artist) <b>blown glass goblet</b> by Jane Waller, late 1980s, clear glass with blue, orange swirls through bowl and	
2019.16.1	stem (donated by artist) <b>Porcelain round vase</b> with small circular opening by Delan Cookson, 1990s (donation)	201

2019.16.2 **Porcelain flask shaped vase** with

circular column foot by Delan Cookson, 1990s (donation)

- 19.16.3 **Stoneware bowl** with inscription by Deborah Hopson-Wolpe of Olney, 2004–14 (donation)
- 9.51.1 **Puzzles for Primary Classes**, written and illustrated Isobel R. Beard, 1962 (donation)
- 19.55.1 **Portrait of Mary Elizabeth Spicer** (1836–1934), head and shoulders, oil in plain gilt frame. Painted by an unknown itinerant travelling painter at Glory Mill paper mill at Loudwater, near Wycombe. Probably early 1850s (donation)
- 19.55.2 **Portrait of Sarah Ann Spicer** (1839–1922), head and shoulders, oil in heavy gilt frame. Painted by an unknown itinerant travelling painter at Glory Mill paper mill at Loudwater, near Wycombe. Probably early 1850s (donation)

9.60.1 **Sacred Temple** by Jane Muir, mosaic panel, 2001; commissioned for Tree of Life exhibition on the human heart.

019.60.2 **Vulnerability** by Jane Muir, watercolour, 2001; commissioned for Tree of Life exhibition on the human heart.

9.60.3 **Mysterious Strength** by Jane Muir, watercolour, 2001; commissioned for Tree of Life exhibition on the human heart.

- 19.130.1 **Large jug** by Deborah Hopson-Wolpe of Olney, wheel thrown, mottled blue glaze, 'Live Love Laugh' in Braille dots around body of jug; c 2019, 290mm high, max width 175mm
- 9.130.2 **Hand axe stoneware form** by Deborah Hopson-Wolpe of Olney, grog-type clay; reminiscent of a bird's head with eyes and beak; hole for axe handle; 200 mm long; c. 2019; inspired by archaeological hand axes / axe heads

9.139.1 Church Street II, Princes Risborough by Barbara Shaw; collage picture using textiles and hand stitching; 2019; framed and glazed 2019.151.1.1-2 Royal Mail First Day Cover of Roald Dahl's The BFG, four stamps (1st, 68p, 76p, £1), 2012

## **Loans Out**

Eighteen works were lent to MK Gallery for their Lie of the Land exhibition (March – May 2019), including the Nebot painting of Hartwell, 3 Rigaud engravings of Stowe and 14 photographs of MK by Bob Jardine. These have now been returned.

The Induno painting, **A Scene from the Risorgimento**, has been at Royal Opera House, Muscat in Oman and is currently being installed in Madrid as part of Opera tour.

# EXHIBITIONS

# WW1: Legacy of War: 20 October 2018 – 12 Jan 2019

Special exhibition marking the end of the First World War and the legacy of war including a display of embroidered hearts by the Embroiderers' Guild.

# Christmas Toy Box: 15 December 2018 – 19 January 2019

Museum collections and community loans of toys for display including jack-in-the-box collection, teddy bears and Thunder Cats.

## **Glorious Glass: 2 February to 23 March 2019**

Contemporary Glass Society displays and sales

# Hands-on Victorians: 19 January – 27 April 2019

In house created interactive exhibition about Victorian society – was hugely popular with schools and home education families.

## Samurai: Warriors of Ancient Japan 6 April – 13 July 2019

Stunning examples of historical Samurai armour and weapons, from complete suits to beautiful swords and ornate helmets.

# CommUnity Voices

# 4 May – 6 July

The hidden stories of some of our local communities told through their objects and words in a multi-sensory exhibition.

# Pots & Prints by Deborah Hopson-Wolpe 13 July – 14 September

A selling exhibition featuring work by the Olney ceramicist and printmaker.

# **ROBOT:** A Collection of Robots, Cyborgs and Androids

# 27 July – 31 August 2019

A spectacular exhibition to capture your imagination featuring robots, cyborgs and androids in all their various designs and guises, including a range from favourite movies

## Reincarnated Rubbish – Endangered and Extinct Recycled Art Exhibition 14 September – 2 November

An exhibition of amazing animal sculptures created from recycled cans by recycling artist Val Hunt.

# Muir Trust Artist in Residence Studio & Exhibition

## Mid-September 2019 – 4 January 2020

This year's Muir Trust Artist in Residence is metalworker Katie Surridge, who will be working in the museum from mid-September until the end of October. The work that she produces will then be on display in her residency exhibition from November until January.

# Off the Wall Art Fair

# 16 November – 7 December

Popular selling show of high quality and affordable art to buy and take away.

# **Toy Box**

## 14 December – March 2020

This family favourite is back again with lots of toys to remember from childhood and plenty of toys and games to play with, too.

# **EVENTS**

## Touch Tour – Glass Wednesday 13 March, 11am – 1pm

Touch Tour for blind and partially-sighted visitors on glass art from Glorious Glass Exhibition. This touch tour explored specially selected pieces of glass artworks on display for handling.

# **Contemporary Glass Society Forum Day Saturday 16 March, 10am – 4pm** Celebrating 20 Years of CGS, 4 glass artists will

present using a range of different glass techniques.

# Contemporary Glass Society Makers Fair Saturday 23 March, 10.30am – 3pm

#### Rock and Fossil Day Saturday 13 April, 11am – 4pm

Explore hands-on displays of rocks and fossils, meet experts and bring along your own specimens for identification. Fossil fun for all ages.

# The Stuart Household at Easter Easter Sunday 21 April, 11am – 4pm

**Bank Holiday Monday 22 April, 10am – 5pm** Stuart re-enactors are preparing for their Easter feast as King James I comes to the throne in England.

# Festival of Colour – in association with Aylesbury Hindu Temple Trust

# Saturday 27 April

Celebrating the earlier festival of Holi with crafts, Indian dancing, drumming and singing and Hindu ceremonies.

# Samurai Warriors – 6 May

Samurai sword fighting techniques, Samurai reenactors and demonstrations of modern Samurai military moves from the Aylesbury Kendo Club.

# Lost in Time Interactive Play 11 May & 18 May, 4pm & 6pm

Professor Chronomier goes on an exciting lighthearted journey through the museum in a new immersive, interactive play by Queens Park Arts Centre's theatre company Unbound.

# **Community Iftar**

### Saturday 25 May, 7.30pm to 10pm

Community event to celebrate the 'CommUnity Voices' exhibition and the breaking of the fast during Ramadan.

# Classic Vehicles from the Kop Hill Climb Monday 27 May, 11am – 4pm

Wonderful classic cars and motorcycles from 1910 to 1960s on show in the Museum gardens

## Touch Tour – Romans Monday 10 June, 11am to 1pm

For blind and visually-impaired visitors to touch and explore Roman objects. Alongside an audio description of the objects, our archaeologist will also provide a brief history about Roman civilisation.

# Celebrating Communities Saturday 15 June

A wonderful chance for local communities to share their customs, beliefs, language and music including Muslim prayers, Buddhist chanting, learning Polish language, trying out Indian Dhol drums and LGBTQ crafts.

# Teddy Bear's Picnic, WhizzFizzFest Event

Saturday 22 June, 12.30pm, 2pm & 3.30pm Teddy Bear's Picnic in the beautiful Museum garden.

# Festival of Archaeology - 20 July

Identifying excavation finds, handling archaeological artefacts, bones identification and meeting real archaeologists.

# Wednesday Wellbeing Sessions:

**21 August: Meditation Mandala and Zentangles:** create your own artwork from colourful repeated patterns.

**4 September: Sensory Stress-Free Puddles:** relieve tension and relax by re-living childhood and playing with cornflour puddles.

**18 September: Paper Flower Power & Therapeutic Colouring:** make decorative paper flowers and enjoy some colouring in the garden

**2 October: Mindful Origami:** have a go at folding paper animals, a quiet and reflective activity with beautiful results

**Eid Fayre – re-enactment of ancient Asian life Bank Holiday Monday 26 August, 11am – 4pm** Re-enactment of traditional Asian life 1200 years ago including displays of weaponry and archery, games, arts and crafts.

Tudor Fayre – Aylesbury Town Council Sunday 8 September, 11am – 4pm

# Touch Tour – Sports. National Sporting Heritage Day Event

# Monday 30 September, 11am to 2pm TBC

For blind and visually impaired visitors to touch and explore sporting objects.

# Mushroom Magic: A UK Fungus Day event Saturday 5 October, 11am – 4pm

The Bucks Fungus Group present local fungi displays and family activities.

# Festival of Lights Celebrations

Saturday 19 October 1 pm - 7 pm

A family event on theme of light with Indian

drumming, dancing, crafts, Shadow Puppetry and lots of activities.

# **Bucks Museum PRIDE**

Saturday 16 November, 4pm – 10pm

In partnership with Aylesbury Town Council, Bucks County Council and Bucks Pride Committee.

# 12 Days of Christmas Science Show Saturday 14 December

Christmas science show with festive experiments that include dry ice, bubbling potions, flashes and bangs.

# **CENTRE FOR BUCKINGHAMSHIRE STUDIES**

# ANNUAL REPORT 2018–2019

This report highlights the work and achievements of the Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies over the last year. This year was particularly noteworthy because of the culmination of the Archives Accreditation process when, in July 2018, the Service was awarded Accredited status as part of The National Archives' Accreditation Standard scheme, on a provisional basis for two years. Attendance and usage of CBS and attendance at events has continued to grow, alongside engagement with partners and stakeholders.

In May, the Service celebrated the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the appointment of the first County Archivist denoting the establishment of the Record Office for the first time in 1938. As part of that celebration, previous members of staff and volunteers were invited to acknowledge and celebrate this milestone.

The Service is often asked to become involved in projects run by other organisations and provide advice and guidance to organisations from across the County; alongside assisting with funding applications towards larger-scale projects for Milton Keynes Council and the Chilterns Conservation Board.

The Service continues to work to deliver the Strategic Plan (agreed in 2017), with some short, medium and long-term aims already having been achieved, such as the establishment of the Bucking-hamshire Archives and Heritage Network, the implementation of a digital preservation repository and gaining funding for the Hidden Bucks project. There are a number of large-scale ambitions that are still in the pipeline before the plan concludes in 2023, including a children and young people education strategy, a full digital surrogate service and digitisation of parish registers.

# ACCREDITATION

In April 2018, the Service submitted an application for Archives Accreditation through the National Archives Accreditation Standard. A validation visit was undertaken in June and provisional Accreditation status was awarded in July. This provisional status is for two years: during that time, significant progress needs to have been made on planning for future storage needs. Work is currently underway on this (see *Accommodation*, below).

The process of applying for Accreditation took over a year, and covered a number of key areas such as Organisational Health (incorporating governance, forward planning and resources buildings, finance and workforce), Collections (incorporating collections management, collections development, collections information, and collections care and conservation), and Stakeholders and their Experiences (incorporating access policy, access plans, and access information). The submission included a questionnaire and supporting documentation (including policies, procedures, plans and strategies, etc.). Work on this process continues, as even an unconditional award requires a review after three years. The team continues to work to improve the Service for users and this was reflected in the feedback from the assessors. An update report needs to be submitted to The National Archives by early July 2020 to demonstrate progress towards the required and recommended actions.

### VOLUNTEERS

As in previous years, the Service has benefitted hugely from the number of volunteers who give their time to help. Over the course of the year, 47 volunteers have contributed some 2,018 hours (an average of 42.9 hours per volunteer). This year, work has been carried out on a number of projects including preservation and conservation of collections, digitisation, assisting with some specific public-facing tasks (helping users with family history queries), cataloguing and indexing, and research as well as a number of other small-scale projects.

### ACCOMMODATION

In May 2018, excess rainwater came into an area of the archive strong-rooms, causing a significant flood and damage to a number of items stored in the area. The collections were quickly evacuated by staff and removed to a commercial drying facility, allowing them to be fully dried out before they were returned later in the year. All archive items were salvaged. Contractors have worked to repair the underlying problem, found to be related to the rainwater drainage pipes concreted into the building as part of the original design.

As part of the Accreditation process, the provisional award reflects need to deal with accommodation into the future and plan for long-term storage for increasing collections. Discussions are underway within the Council regarding how this might be dealt with and how more storage can be found.

## DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

The project to digitise the probate and marriage licence collections, in conjunction with Family-Search, started in March. A significant amount of work had been done by the Service in preparation for this project, including repairing large numbers of wills in advance of the photography taking place. This will create c.250,000 images, which will be mounted online through commercial suppliers, such as Ancestry and Find My Past, as well as on the Council's own website, to enable users to purchase copies. This project is acting as a pilot to enable the Service to look at the processes involved with a view in the future to expanding the digitisation to larger sets of documents, such as parish registers.

Implementation of the digital preservation repository has continued. The system is intended to be able to take born-digital records that are deposited with the Centre electronically, without the need to print and store paper versions. Work to expand the Service's use of social media has also continued during the year: follower count has increased by over 50% across the three channels that are currently used (Twitter, Facebook and Instagram).

## OUTREACH

The Service continues to hold events to reach new audiences and engage with people outside the traditional user base. This has included involvement in the national Heritage Open Days scheme, as well as the third annual Buckinghamshire History Fair, held to coincide with the national 'Explore Your Archive' initiative. In March 2019 the Service attended the world premiere of a piece of music by Aylesbury-born composer Rutland Boughton (1878–1960); the concert was held at St Mary's Church, Aylesbury.

CBS continues to co-ordinate the Buckinghamshire Archive and Heritage Network. The Network aims to bring together heritage organisations from across Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes to consider matters of mutual interest. This year, topics covered at the meetings included data protection (to coincide with the introduction of the General Data Protection Regulations) and social media.

# Projects

Over 2018–19, CBS received external funding for three large-scale projects:

### **Great War Buckinghamshire**

As this project draws to a natural conclusion following the end of the World War I centenary, highlights over the past year have been the two events held to disseminate the work of the project. Showcase events were held in High Wycombe in May and Milton Keynes in October, featuring a programme of live entertainment, including specially commissioned poems, songs and performances inspired by the research of the project to date. Towards the end of 2018, the team worked with Professor Ian Beckett to produce a book to serve as a research guide to Great War sources at CBS. This will be published in July 2019, and launched to mark the end of the project.

### **Spinal 2 Sport**

Running since September 2017 and in partnership with the National Paralympic Heritage Trust, CBS continues to undertake cataloguing and conservation of three collections: patient files from the National Spinal Injuries Centre at Stoke Mandeville Hospital (part of Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust) and sporting heritage from the International Wheelchair and Amputee Sports Federation and WheelPower. Over 4,000 items have been catalogued to date, whilst conservation treatment has been undertaken on c.149 boxes of patient files and a number of sporting items, including flags.

## **Hidden Bucks**

Launched in April 2018, this two-year project to catalogue the entire Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society (BAS) collection is funded by a range of partners, with Buckinghamshire Record Society (BRS) providing 50% of the funding alongside Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society, the Francis Coales Charitable Foundation, the Marc Fitch Fund, the Radcliffe Trust, Aylesbury Vale Community Trust and the Buckinghamshire Community Foundation. This collection has been held by CBS for a number of years. External funding had been sought on a number of occasions to try and catalogue the collection, but every attempt had been unsuccessful until BRS offered to develop a cataloguing project alongside CBS. The majority of the items in the collection are deeds to buildings and land, dating from 1155 to the nineteenth century.

At the end of the first year of the project, 6,246 items had been catalogued, c.50% of the total amount of items. Therefore, the project is on track to complete successfully by April 2020.

In addition to these multi-year externally-funded projects, the Service has also been involved in a several other smaller projects over the last year. These include:

- the continuation of work on the archives of Beaconsfield and District Historical Society;
- the production of the roll of honour for those members of staff from the County Council who died during World War One (unveiled in the Exhibition Suite in Old County Hall in June);
- a successful application to The National Archives' Archives Revealed Scoping Grant scheme for a scoping study related to a new accession: the records of the British Paralympic Association;
- an unsuccessful application to the Heritage Lottery Fund's Resilient Heritage funding stream, intended to look at several areas of development for the service;

• the start of an operational review of the Service that will run through to 2020.

# MILTON KEYNES

As part of the ongoing service level agreement, the Service has continued to work closely with colleagues in Milton Keynes Council on the development of a City Archive Service in the Central Library. Work continues with plans to open a pilot Archives in the Library in 2020. During the year, a number of outreach events have been held when visitors have been asked for their feedback on the service and whether they would use it if it was there.

# NATIONAL PARALYMPIC HERITAGE TRUST

The Service has also continued to work closely with partners from the National Paralympic Heritage Trust (NPHT) as part of the ongoing partnership. This has included participation in the regular collections steering group meetings and working with the Trust to supply items for their exhibitions, both at Stoke Mandeville and around the country. The Heritage Centre at Stoke Mandeville Stadium opened on 29 March 2019 and a number of the items included in the displays are taken from collections held at the Centre.

## COLLECTIONS

During this period, the Centre accepted 119 accessions from sources including the County Council, District Councils, Parish Councils, parish and nonconformist churches and many private individuals. From the County Council there have been records from several departments, including the Education Department and past publications of the Library service. In addition, the minutes of the County Council are being retrospectively catalogued. This year, cataloguing of the minutes for the first Council (1889 to 1974) has been completed in full. It is hoped that the minutes for the second Council will be catalogued in the coming year. There have been a few additional items from District and Town Councils, including large deposits of minutes and papers from Princes Risborough Town Council, Beaconsfield Town Council and Wycombe District Council.

Parish churches continue to deposit their

registers and other records. Registers of baptisms, banns, marriages and burials are one of the most frequently used sources in the Centre, as they are a vital resource for family history. All parish registers are catalogued as soon as they arrive, so that a search of the online catalogue will show exactly what is held. Most of the records are from the twentieth century, but there have been some earlier items, including settlement papers from Beaconsfield and copies of parish magazines from Waddesdon.

As usual, the Buckinghamshire Military Museum Trust has deposited several collections, including a large collection relating to Lieutenant Colonel His Honour Judge Sir Laurence Verney, concerning his service in the Second World War and subesquent connections with the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry. There was also a notebook of Major Elliott Viney (1st Bucks Battalion) compiled while he was a Prisoner of War at Oflag VI/23, giving the story of the Buckinghamshire Battalion from 1938 to 1939, with some other records.

The Centre continues to receive many collections of personal records, title deeds, sale particulars and photographs. The Wendover Esate (Abel-Smith family) deposited rentals, accounts and probate records from the 1870s into the twentieth century. There were additional papers from the Stewart-Liberty family of The Lee and their relations, including biographical notes about members of the Phipps family, and a substantial collection of title deeds, dating from the seventeenth to the twentieth century.

More personal records included a few papers relating to the service of Madeline Olive Thornewill of Buckingham in the Women's Land Army, 1942–1949. There were papers of Douglas Payne (1927–2015) from his childhood in Amersham (including scrapbooks compiled during the war) and his subsequent career as a teacher in England and Tasmania. There was also a collection of records concerning the interrelated families of Courage, Last, Murray, Nash (including Paul Nash the artist) and Sturges families of Stony Stratford, Stewkley and elsewhere, including diaries, correspondence and photographs.

The National Spinal Injuries Centre at Stoke Mandeville Hospital was instrumental in the development of wheelchair sport. The Service is actively collecting a range of material relating to the Paralympic Games, including photographs, reminiscences, medals and other records. Many are for London 2012, but increasingly there are items from Games elsewhere in the world. Objects that are received are often transferred to the County Museum, with whom we continue to work closely with.

Among other items of interest we received an interesting collection of records from Murad Developments Limited of Stocklake in Aylesbury, dating from the 1950s. This included technical drawings for two models of car and photographs of the factory and workers. Speen School deposited log books from 1874 and Sands School in High Wycombe deposited records from 1903 onwards. [Please note that records from schools are subject to a closure period if they contain details of individual pupils.] The Arts Society (formerly N.A.D.F.A.S.), Chiltern Branch, deposited photographs, scrapbooks and other records from their foundation in 1965. The service also received a small collection of items produced by W.A.R.A., the Wing Airport Resistance Association, in their campaign against siting the Third London Airport at Wing/Cublington in the 1970s. There was also a substantial collection of over 1000 slides from the collection of the late Michael Pratt, showing scenes in Newport Pagnell from the 19th and 20th centuries. This latter have been catalogued in full.

The Local Studies Library has continued to receive new books, which have been catalogued and added to the open shelves. Rationalisation of the older stock, including items no longer required in branch libraries, is continuing, with some duplicate copies being removed and sold. It has also been possible to make space on the shelves by discarding outdated items. In all, 132 titles have been added to the library catalogue this year, with some interesting new accessions, such as the memoirs of a Thames Valley armed police officer, a history of Westbury Manor and a new biography of Humphrey Repton. Selected highlights of other accessions are:

 Additional records of the Buckinghamshire Constabulary, comprising a history of Wycombe Borough Police Force, 1836–1913, by Peter Howland, annual report of Bucks Constabulary Police Federation Joint Branch Board, 1965, information about crimes committed, issued 2 February 1966, Buckinghamshire Constabulary Standing Orders, copies of 'Police-Duty Catechism and Reports', by H. Chiles, 'Powers of Arrest and Charges', by F. Calvert, 1946, The Thames Valley Police Newspaper, Jan/Feb 1986, Force Goals, 1989, and brochure produced to commemorate 50 Years of Thames Valley Police, 1968–2018

- Records of Bucks Constabulary Old Comrades Association, 1953–2017, including minutes of committee and annual general meetings (including lists of those attending and some details of fund raising), 1977–2016, address book (from 1991) and papers
- Deeds of Fulmer Village Hall (originally the National School), including copy of deed of endowment of school in 1844, sale after closure in 1939, purchase of old school and land by Parish Council, 1942–1948, and appointments of trustees, 1939–2009
- Altered tithe apportionments for Denham parish (most with plans), 30 March 1832, 15 December 1932, 13 February 1933, 28 February 1933, 14 June 1933, 8 December 1933, and 7 September 1935
- Record of church furnishings of St Nicholas in Ibstone, compiled by the The Arts Society Thames/Buckinghamshire Church Recording Group, 2018
- Record of church furnishings of St Michael, Lavendon, compiled by the North Buckinghamshire Church Recorders (The Arts Society), 2018
- Minute book of Aylesbury Market Company, with loose items including correspondence and share certificates, 1899–1903
- Papers of Mr Arthur Edwin Stevens, relating to his career as a teacher (from 1948) and headmaster (1970–1987) at Chalfont County Secondary School
- Items relating to Wycombe Abbey School, 20th cent, comprising: postcards of exterior of Wycombe Abbey and interior of entrance hall, watercolour paintings of Wycombe Abbey, 1987, by ? Elis and speech day at Wycombe Abbey, 1990, by D. Benson, cd of music from Wycombe Abbey, silver and enamel brooch with badge of the school, produced by Goldsmiths and Company in London, 1937, and printed books 'Stands there a School, Memories of Dame Frances Dove, Founder of Wycombe Abbey School', by Elsie Bowerman (Dolphin Press,

Wycombe Abbey School Seniors), 'Wycombe Abbey School, 1896–1986', by Lorna Flint (signed by the author, 1989), and 'Wycombe Abbey Revisted, an illustrated history', by Margaret Beckett (2016)

- Records of the Marlow to Maidenhead Passengers' Association (M.M.P.A.), 1960s 21 cent
- Plans of alterations and extensions to Village Hall, Bells Hill, Stoke Poges, for Stoke Poges Community Association by Hartley Travis Architects, Slough, 1970s
- Records and artefacts relating to the British Paralympic Association mostly comprising items related to the London 2012 Paralympic Games but also relating to the Atlanta 1996 Paralympic Games. Includes printed material, planning files, posters and photographs, VHS and Betamax films, etc. Material also includes models (paper and metal), costumes from the opening and closing ceremonies, mood boards and large planning templates for the opening and closing ceremony, all from London 2012, with some uniforms from 1990s–2000s.
- Deeds relating to Botchmore Farm (now Bowmore Farm), including plans, 1924–1942, and Holly Cottage (part formerly used as a Baptist Chapel), 1878–1986
- Deeds and papers of property of the Brown family in Quainton, comprising: Account and inventory for (unnamed) farm, 1846–1847, and account book, 1888–1892, Sale particulars for Cross Farm and Banner or Lower Farm, to be sold by Messrs W. Brown and Company, 24 July 1897, account book of J. Brown and E. Brown as executors of W.B. Brown, 1915–1917; Papers of Edmund Brown comprising (Lower) Blackgrove Farm, valuation, 1897, letters concerning mortgage, 1918, bill for tenancy, 1934, and accounts, 1938–1940, and Banner Farm, accounts, 1941–1943, and bills, 1942–1945, also specification and plans for proposed house on Upper Street, 1933
- Volume relating to the estate of Tyringham Backwell, Esquire (signed by his guardians, his mother Sarah Backwell, to 1763, then by William Backwell to 1769, and in 1770 by G.
  Frederick a Receiver appointed by the Court of Chancery), comprising rental and account of disbursements for estate in Tyringham and

Filgrave, 1755–1769, with rental and account for estates in Broughton, Sherington, Lathbury, Moulsoe and Cranfield, 1765–1769

- Deeds relating to tenement, workshop and timber yard (later garden) on White Pitt Lane in Wooburn Green, comprising covenant to produce title deeds, James Du Pre to Thomas Williams, 8 March 1805, and mortgage, John Williams to James Hunt and Stephen Westbrook, 25 October 1810, correspondence and account about repayment of mortgage, 1826–1827, insurance policies by John Williams, 1827 and 1830; Also conveyance of garden and orchard near the station in Wooburn Green (with plan), from William Baring Du Pre to Aaron Williams, 1 October 1897
- Papers relating to the family of John William Moore, comprising family tree, photograph of J.W. Moore in 1874, large photograph of John William Moore (aged 71) and his wife Mary Ann Moore, Shorter nee Olyett (aged 70), photocopy of Christmas card sent from J.W. Moore, 1 Primrose Villas in Boveney to his daughter Rosina Etheridge, photograph of members of the family including Rosina Etheridge, photograph of the Windsor and Eton Branch of the Womens Total Abstinence Union in 1901, including J.W. Moore, Mary Ann Moore, his daughter Annie Tough and her husband Charles Tough, copy of the will of J.W. Moore, 1911, and some records concerning his daughter Lillian Moore and her husband Frederick William Bailey, copies of photographs of the military funeral of Arthur Bailey in 1925, and letter from Buckingham Palace acknowledging news of the death of Frederick William Bailey, 1955, with notes on other members of the Bailey family, 19th cent -20th cent
- Additional records relating to the Bennet family of New Inn, Stowe, comprising letters to Mary Bennett nee George (wife of Charles Bennett), from friends, 1826–1827, 1831, and

from Caroline Grenville thanking her for her 21st birthday gift from the Stowe tenants, 1877, with copies and transcriptions, and list of monumental inscriptions for the family in Stowe churchyard, from 18th to 20th cent, with some photographs of gravestones

- Deeds of property in Iver, including admissions from the manor of Iver, sale catalogues, copies of wills and abstracts of title, properties include messuages and land, butchers shop on High Street, The Yews and The Limes, property at Love Green, Thorney Farm House, 1-12 Primrose Cottages in Mansion Lane, Shredding Green, and Swallowfield Farm, Iver Heath, 1788–1939
- Photographs showing line and wrecked train following an accident at Aylesbury Station, 23 Dec 1904
- Photographs of exterior and interior of Longwick Mill, 1999, with newspaper cuttings and sale particulars for the property after redevelopment into three houses, 2002, and notes about the Gomme family at the Mill
- Map of Buckinghamshire surveyed by Lieutenant Robert K. Dawson in 1831, showing boundaries of hundreds, places of election and numbers of Members of Parliament to be elected by each Borough following the Reform Act of 1832, Map of Great Marlow surveyed by R.K. Dawson (from Ordnance Survey), showing old and proposed new boundaries, 1831, with report by Robert J. Saunders recommending the areas which could to be added to the Borough of Great Marlow, which would then elect two members to the new Parliament
- Research notes and photographs relating to the history of Buckinghamshire Cinemas, 20th cent
- Research notes, engraving plates and papers of Sir Frank Markham, 20th cent

Laura Cotton County and Diocesan Archivist

# **COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGY SERVICE**

## **REPORT FOR 2019**

The County's Archaeological Service forms part of the Transport, Economy, Environment Service's Environment Team within Environment Services. Philip Markham is the Senior Archaeology Officer, Lucy Lawrence is the Archaeology Officer, Julia Wise is the HER Officer (part time), Paul Clements is the HER Assistant and Eliza Alqassar is the Environment Team Leader.

# DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT/SITES

It has been another busy year for the team, who have dealt with approximately 550 consultations, 100 HER requests and 60 fieldwork projects. Highlights include:

**Longwick:** At a monitoring visit to a John Moore Heritage Services site near Longwick recently one of the field team who had only been working for 8



months recovered this Neolithic axe head from the plough soil. It was pointed out that they were not likely to top that for a while!

**Hambleden**: During April, two hoards comprising a silver hoard and a gold hoard were discovered during a metal detecting rally. Two of the Team went out together with the Oxfordshire Finds Liaison Officer and excavated a small area. The hoards appeared to have been within a wall of a structure and spread through ploughing. Subsequent excavation by Cotswold Archaeology recovered approximately 200 coins in addition to the 400 silver and 12 gold coins already excavated. All were  $13^{\text{th}} - 14^{\text{th}}$  century.

# MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE SCHEMES

# **High Speed 2**

We continue to provide advice through the HS2 Ltd Heritage Sub-Group on route-wide issues and with Fusion, Historic Environment Research & Delivery Strategy (HERDS) Managers and the field teams on site. Although most of the works are covered by the Act of Parliament some are still covered through the planning process. These Schedule 17 consultations usually come through the District Councils Planning departments.

Fieldwork as of autumn 2019 includes 693 hectares of geophysical surveys, 1080 interventions at 67 locations with 25 sites in progress at the time of writing. Fusion and/or their archaeological contractors have supplied us with draft project specifications for comment, on which we sometimes request minor amendments. The evaluation fieldwork around St Mary's Church, Stoke Mandeville has been completed for the time being while a mitigation strategy is drawn up.

Two HERDS Managers, Dr Rachel Wood and Dr Dan Hounsell, employed by Fusion, keep us

FIGURE 1 Neolithic axe-head from Longwick (Photo: Lucy Lawrence)

informed on works. They ensure that all fieldwork and recording is undertaken to the same standard and format. We are being invited to monitor the work and make comments, which appears to be working well. It is envisaged that the information produced will be in an appropriate HER format for easy data entry, although this has not yet been agreed with the HER community. HS2 has agreed a three-year service level agreement for our HER data.

### East-West Rail

We are continuing to have discussions over the documents and conditions which should be included in the Transport & Works Act Order (TWAO). The environmental statement is not as clear as it could be and comments have been made to Atkins. To address the archaeological issues, another document, the Heritage Delivery Strategy, is going to be produced. The contents of this have been discussed but we have not yet seen a draft copy. After a flurry of site works earlier in the year this project has been relatively quiet. We have recently received some draft geophysical survey results for Fleet Marston, which extend the Roman ladder settlement to the east along Akeman Street.

#### **Heathrow New Runway**

There have been a number of meetings during the year over the Masterplan, the PEIR (Preliminary Environmental Information Report) and the Heritage Strategy. Comments from us, the other local authority archaeological services involved and Historic England have been made. We have received a number of documents from Wood, the consultants. According to the air photography report, over 200 new sites have been recorded within the Heathrow study area, some of which are within Bucks. A service-level agreement to pay for our time spent on this scheme has been agreed. For Bucks the largest impact is likely to be from the proposed flood mitigation sites.

#### Heathrow Western Rail Link

Archaeological evaluation has been undertaken, but due to access and ownership issues further evaluation will be required following consent. We have responded to the Development Consent Order consultation and 'issues and asks' meetings are continuing. Part of the route is currently a mineral extraction site and excavation has been undertaken prior to each phase. Iron Age pits have been recorded and are thought to be on the periphery of a small settlement or farmstead which will be excavated in later phases.

### **Historic Environment Record**

business case for HBSMRWEB (a new А web-based version of the HER) has been through three Technology Boards to assess its viability and value for money and has now been approved. By the time of publication, HBSMRWEB should be up and running providing better public access to the HER online. The HER volunteer working on the milestones project is still making final edits to the existing entries. The new HER volunteer who had been creating and enhancing records of schools was offered a full-time job with the Natural History Museum in London and left in May. The Buckinghamshire Gardens Trust Research and Recording Project is continuing to make good progress with 63 reports completed, 3 reports in draft and work underway on a further 11 gardens. In addition, the volunteers are also researching artist's gardens in Buckinghamshire, which will probably be published as a short article.

## **Countryside Stewardship Consultations**

In 2019 the HER was consulted on 27 Countryside Stewardship applications covering 7,916 hectares within Buckinghamshire. Of these, 15 (55%) were for higher tier schemes and 12 (44%) were for mid-tier schemes. The HER was able to provide added value to 41% of the applications and we responded to all the consultations within the 20-day period required by Natural England. The numbers of Stewardship consultations have dropped considerably this year as a direct result of the Rural Payments Agency making significant changes to the consultation process in an attempt to cut costs. The bulk of mid-tier applications were processed without any input from the HER: we are hopeful that there aren't significant detrimental impacts on heritage in the county as a consequence of these changes and have yet to hear whether the scheme is expected to continue in future years.

#### Future

The five local authorities consisting of Buckinghamshire County Council and the District Councils of Aylesbury Vale, Wycombe and Chiltern and South Bucks are to merge to become a unitary authority under the title of Buckinghamshire Council on 1 April 2020. This will hopefully lead to a more integrated approach to providing heritage advice and information and closer ties to planning. Phil Markham Senior Archaeology Officer Environment Team Transport, Economy, Environment Buckinghamshire County Council

# CONSERVATION & ARCHAEOLOGY IN MILTON KEYNES 2018

# DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT

The Conservation & Archaeology Team received 1000 planning consultations during 2018, 599 of which were for the Senior Archaeological Officer.

## Fieldwork

2018 was a busy year for fieldwork with twenty-seven projects notified to the Historic Environment Record (HER) Projects comprised:

2 historic building records; 12 trial trench evaluations, 5 geophysical surveys; 5 excavations and 3 watching briefs. Most of these projects are summarised in the 'Archaeological Summaries' section of this volume.

Highlights included two excavations in Hanslope. The first, by Cotswold Archaeology, revealed several phases of early medieval occupation dating possibly from the Middle/Late Anglo-Saxon period until the 14<sup>th</sup> century, including 11<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>-century enclosures relating to the now-deserted hamlet of Green End. The second, by Albion Archaeology, focussed on an area along Long Street Road and revealed a small unenclosed middle to late Iron Age settlement and roadside occupation of the 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> centuries.

# BUILDING CONSERVATION

Listing activity in 2018 was largely confined to war memorials as First World War commemorations drew to a close, a total of 20 being added to the list.

The first group of draft conservation area reviews (Group 1a: Bradwell, Great Linford, Milton Keynes Village, Shenley Church End) were out for consultation alongside the overarching General Information policy document. Written work was also underway for the Group 1b areas: Stony Stratford, Bletchley, Willen, and Woughton on the Green.

# HERITAGE AT RISK

The Conservation & Archaeology team have been working with the Historic England South East Heritage at Risk team and the City Discovery Centre to secure repairs to the scheduled monument and Grade I listed former chapel to Bradwell Abbey. It was added to the Heritage at Risk register because the roof is leaking, endangering the medieval walls and their important wall paintings.

## HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD

Work has progressed with the items on the Historic England approved HER Action Plan for 2017 – 2019. This year an updated Action Plan will be produced.

# COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGY

In August a geophysical survey (Ground penetrating radar and magnetometry) was carried out by a team from Magnitude Surveys Ltd, along with members of the public and volunteers from the Bury Field Commoners Association, across an area containing earthwork banks and ditches of the Civil War defences (Scheduled Monument 1021389), on Bury Field Common, Newport Pagnell. The objective was to identify the belowground extent of the defences and any related surviving structural elements.

The combined survey recorded distinct anomalies around the bank and ditch – or enceinte – which formed the outer defensive enclosure around the town. A distinct linear feature of great depth (up to 1.5m) along the centre of the bank has been interpreted as a foundation cut feature, such as a slot cut to support a wooden wall atop the bank. Furthermore, to the east of the previous foundation cut, an unrecorded parallel linear anomaly has been recorded to be associated with the Civil War defences. Deposits of material were detected within the outer ditch, which may represent debris from the demolition of the defences in 1646. The



FIGURE 1 Newport Pagnell, volunteers' briefing during geophysical survey

full technical report may be accessed at https://doi. org/10.5284/1050089

# OUTREACH

The 12<sup>th</sup> annual Milton Keynes Archaeology Day was another successful and well-attended event. After the previous event in the Church of Christ the Cornerstone, the decision was made to once again hold the event there, making full use of the spacious and versatile main worship area. The event was formally opened by the Mayor, Martin Petchey, who also launched the newly published 'Wulfhere's People' detailing the 2008 excavation of an extensive late 6<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>-century Anglo-Saxon cemetery, the largest found in Buckinghamshire.

This year's 'hand's-on' activity for young people was provided by Border Archaeology and proved as popular as ever. Another popular aspect of the event is the displays from active local fieldwork groups and societies. This year, three groups participated: The Upper Nene Archaeological Society (UNAS), Woughton Heritage Group and Milton Keynes Heritage Association. Each group provided an activity, the various activities promoting interaction between those viewing the displays and the stall holders.

As in previous years, the biggest draws of the day were the talks, with up to 70 in the audience for each. This year featured three shorter talks on recent development-related fieldwork on the Western and Eastern Expansion Areas (Border Archaeology), Eaton Leys / Magiovinium (Wessex Archaeology), and Kickles Farm, Newport Pagnell (Albion Archaeology). Additionally, a longer, lively talk was given by Eliott Wragg on the Thames Discovery Programme's investigations along the Thames foreshore, finishing off the day. The 2019 event will be



FIGURE 2 Visitors to MK Archaeology Day at the Portable Antiquities Scheme stand

held at the Church of Christ the Cornerstone on Saturday 2 November.

Nick Crank Senior Archaeological Officer Conservation & Archaeology Team Milton Keynes Council