

# SAXON

Sutton Hoo has made the top ten in the Art, Architecture and Sculpture category of Historic England's 'Irreplaceable: A History of England in 100 Places', a list of a 100 places, buildings and historical sites that tell the remarkable story of England and its impact on the world. Sutton Hoo is the oldest site on the list.

## Archaeologists at Sutton Hoo



*The tower footings trench. Photo: Caryl Dane*

A team of professional archaeologists from MOLA (Museum of London Archaeology) have been excavating on the edge of Top Hat Wood, digging just yards away from Mound One, the burial mound where the ship was discovered. It is the first time archaeologists have worked within the Scheduled Monument since 1991. The team was joined by National Trust volunteers who assisted with the work, sieving soil for finds. Also, the metal detectorist, Roy Damant, one of the four authorised

detectorists involved in the Rendlesham survey, was there to scan the spoil-heaps.

The excavation took place over the course of five days, finishing on 2nd June and provided a rare opportunity for visitors to the site see archaeology taking place at such a significant site. The work is the first step of a National Trust project, designed to enhance the visitor experience, which has received a National Lottery grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund. The excavation was on the site of a new seventeen metre (56') high, permanent observation tower. From the top of the tower, visitors will be able



*Early model of an idea for the proposed observation tower, designed by Nissen Richards Studio Ltd., London. Photo: Caryl Dane*

to view the entire burial ground and look out across the landscape towards the River Deben.

Four trenches were dug, one in the location of the proposed tower footings and three positioned along the site of the ramp which will lead up to the tower. Now the dig is complete, work will soon begin on the construction of the tower.

As well as a handful of small pieces of Neolithic worked flint and a possible Bronze Age feature, two rusty metal containers were found. These were possibly 1940s military ammunition boxes, they were in very poor condition and swiftly disintegrated as the soil was removed from around



*Neolithic worked flint flakes from the recent Sutton Hoo excavations. Photo: Caryl Dane*

them. Also of note were fragments of a plastic Sunblest bread wrapper, from the style of design assumed to be about 20-30 years old, demonstrating

just how long plastic can survive. We look forward to an interesting report from MOLA. ❖

## The Spirit of Beowulf Community Festival

Woodbridge held a free Community Festival, celebrating the links between the epic poem of Beowulf and the treasures unearthed from the burial site at Sutton Hoo. It ran over five days, on the banks of the River Deben and various locations around the town, from May 3rd – 7th, 2018.

The Spirit of Beowulf was the Mayor's gift to Woodbridge to celebrate the end of her mayoral year.

In the open public courtyard of the new Whisstock's complex, on Woodbridge Waterfront, the half-scale replica of the Sutton Hoo longship, *Sae Wylfing*, was on display. Two community buildings at Whisstocks Place are on long terms leases at a peppercorn rent to the Woodbridge Museum Trust and the Woodbridge Riverside Trust. Plans are to build a full-size replica in the newly opened 'Longshed' there.

On the 5th May, the well-known, prize-winning author and poet, Kevin Crossley-Holland, was storytelling, on the replica ship, with readings from his latest publication, *Norse Myths: Tales of Odin, Thor and Loki* and also, telling parts of the epic tale of Beowulf. ❖

The Sutton Hoo Ship's Company is a charitable organisation set up by members of Woodbridge Riverside Trust and others with a specific objective of driving the reconstruction of the Sutton Hoo ship

in the Longshed at Whisstocks Place, on the waterfront at Woodbridge. The Ship's Company is organising an invitation-only Symposium to be held at the Longshed on Saturday 6th October 2018. Experts and academics from the UK and abroad will examine the proposals. They will assess them critically, there and during a short consultation period afterwards. The feedback will then be absorbed before irreversible commitments are made on the reconstruction itself. ❖

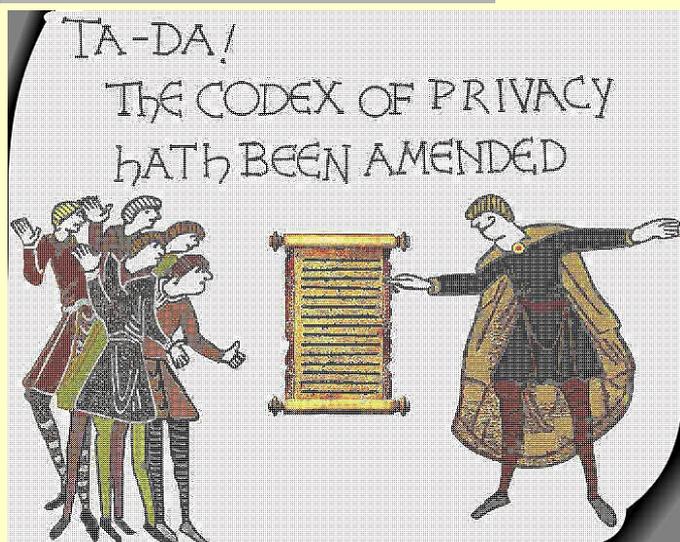


Clare-the-Mayor (Clare Perkins) opening The Spirit of Beowulf Community Festival. Photo: Caryl Dane



*Kevin Crossley-Holland. Photo: Caryl Dane*

## Data Protection Update



You have probably heard a lot about changes to data protection laws in the news recently and been inundated with emails asking you “to opt-in” or “please stay in touch”. In essence, these new regulations affect how organisations, companies, clubs and societies collect, process and store your personal information. They also give you some new rights and control over that data.

The new “General Data Protection Regulation” (GDPR) came into force on the 25th of May this year and sets out 8 principles of data protection. In summary, these are ...

1. Personal data should be processed fairly and lawfully.
2. Personal data should be collected and processed for specific and limited purposes.
3. Personal data should be adequate, relevant and not excessive.
4. Personal data must be accurate.
5. Personal data should not be retained longer than is reasonably required.
6. Individuals have the right to obtain a copy of their personal data, get errors corrected, data deleted and object to processing if they believe it is causing them harm.
7. Personal data must be stored securely.
8. Personal data should not be transferred outside the European Economic Area (EEA) or more specifically, to any Country or State with lesser personal data protection laws.

So how do these principles affect you and the Sutton Hoo Society?

The Society needs to store a small amount of relevant personal information in order to administer your membership, such as name, address, email, gift-aid status, membership type etc. This data will always be processed lawfully and for the specific purposes of administering your membership, communicating with you about Society business and related Anglo Saxon news or events, which may be of interest. The Society is not involved in marketing of any kind (unless you count recommending a good Anglo Saxon book) and will never pass your details onto 3rd parties.

The Society endeavours to keep this information accurate and you may be familiar with the personal details section of your annual renewal letter. Please review these details regularly and let us know if any need changing or you would like another copy.

All personal data is stored securely in a password-protected database that is not publicly accessible; it will only be accessed by the membership secretary or other elected members of the Society. The data will be retained for the duration of an individual’s membership, followed by an additional 12 months, in order to facilitate renewals; after this, the data will be deleted.

Finally, the Sutton Hoo Society is a UK based charity and you can be assured that your personal data will never be transferred outside the UK or Europe.

If you have any questions about GDPR, personal data or anything else to do with your membership, please get in touch by email using [membership@sutton.org](mailto:membership@sutton.org) or drop me a line by post. ❖

**Marc** (Membership secretary)

## Sutton Hoo Historia

*Historia* is the National Trust's Festival of History at Sutton Hoo. The Programme is varied each year and 2018 will be our fourth season of Talks on Anglo-Saxon themes with connections to Sutton Hoo. *Historia* aims to offer our target audience some of the latest thinking and research, in a series of lectures presented by renowned historians, archaeologists and academic experts.

*Historia* was created as an opportunity for communicating and strengthening the connection of our visitors with Sutton Hoo and what its landscape reveals to us about the past through archaeology.

Over the past three seasons, we have been inspired, educated and informed by some of the leading figures in archaeology. Nineteen speakers have taken part and delivered over thirty different presentations to our audiences and their Talks have been well received. Our visitors have enjoyed a varied programme and appreciated the opportunity to hear specialists talking about their observations and reflections about Sutton Hoo, especially in the light

of the remarkable discoveries of the Staffordshire Hoard and sites at Rendlesham and Lyminge in Kent, and how new thinking has emerged to change our understanding of the period.

We have learned about recent developments in the use of technology and how modern methods of data analysis have produced impressive results, enabling archaeologists to explore meaningful new interpretations of the past in ways that Basil Brown could only have dreamed about.

There have been seven more Talks scheduled for 2018 and in this centenary year of women's suffrage, we have invited our distinguished speakers to share their specialist knowledge and insights on the theme of Extraordinary Women in Anglo-Saxon England. Talks last one hour with time for questions.

***Bryony Abbott,***

Sutton Hoo Society Member and NTSH Volunteer,  
Historia

### 16th September

#### **'Women and cloth in Early Anglo-Saxon England: a feminist perspective', Sue Harrington**

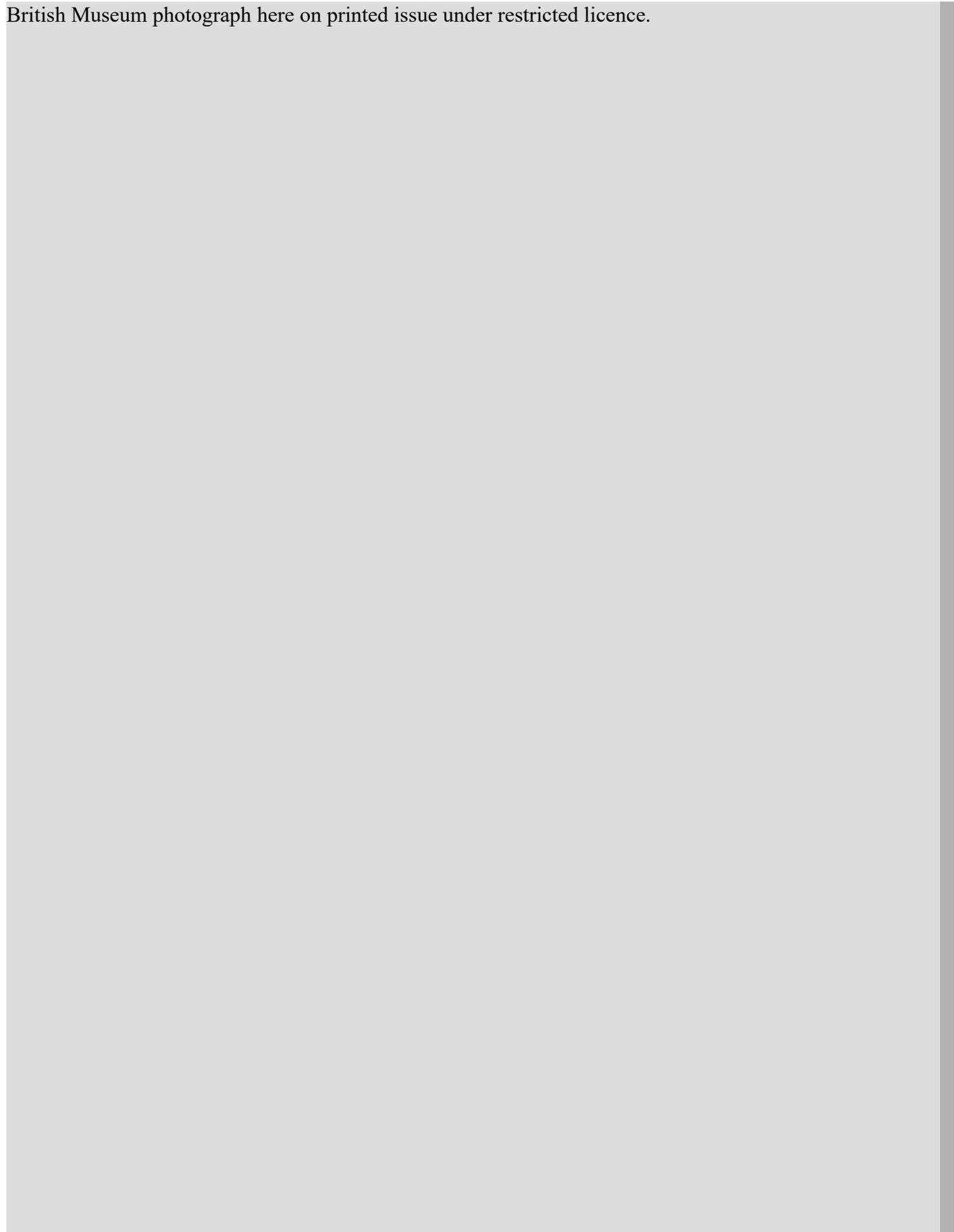
Dr Sue Harrington of University College London is a widely published historian on early medieval gender identity with research in textiles and power. Women are often associated with cloth production and she will talk about this in relation to emerging burial archaeological evidence and discuss these new perspectives.

### 30th September

#### **'Angels of Death: The role of women in Anglo-Saxon burial practices', Richard Hoggett**

Dr Richard Hoggett is a historian working on – amongst others – the conversion to Christianity within East Anglia, with several books and articles published on the topic. He will explore what can be learned about Anglo-Saxon women through the burial practices of the time, including expression of identity through funerary assemblage and the important role women may have played in the burials of others.

British Museum photograph here on printed issue under restricted licence.



### The 1939 survey of the Sutton Hoo ship – how did they do it?

The Anglo-Saxon ship found at Sutton Hoo in 1939 was a ‘ghost’ in the sand, punctuated by rows of rivets, or ‘clench nails’. It was exposed only after weeks of patient, skilful work. The ship had a list to starboard that varied between 5 and 10 degrees along its length, and in two places the back was broken (or, at least, slightly bent). The tilt of the ship is not obvious from most of the photographs you see, presumably because the person behind the camera sub-consciously compensates to maximise the impact of the photo.

In August 1939, after the treasure had been lifted from the burial chamber, a team arrived to survey the ship. This was led by Lieutenant-Commander John Kenneth Douglas Hutchison, R.N.

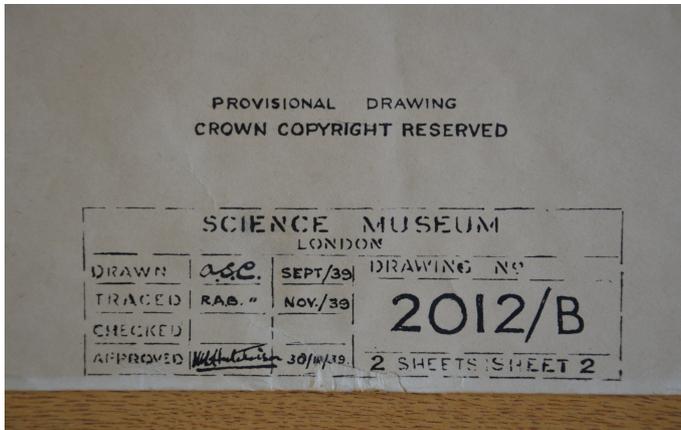
(retired). He was from the Science Museum, where he was the Keeper of the Department of Ship Models, and he had two assistants, A. S. Crosley and F. Gilman.

War was declared soon afterwards, and Hutchison went off to serve. The notes and papers belonging to the Science Museum were eventually destroyed in a bombing raid. The only surviving information is at Ipswich Museum. It is a tracing of sheet 2 of 2 of a provisional drawing made originally in September 1939 by ‘ASC’, who must be Crosley. The legend also shows that the drawing was not checked, that the tracing was done in November, and that Hutchison signed his approval on 30/11/39. He died during the war, and his records were destroyed by his widow.



Above - F. Gilman and A. S. Crosley. Photo: Basil Brown. © Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service.  
Page 7 – Surveying the shape of the ship 1939. Photo: Mercie Lack. © The Trustees of the British Museum.

When a team from the British Museum came to work at the site in 1965-1970 they found the condition of the ship was much worse than in 1939.



*The legend on the provisional drawing. Colchester and Ipswich Museums. Thank you Philip Wise.*

This partly arose from damage sustained when the site was an army training camp in World War 2. The 1965-1970 investigations are detailed in Volume I of *The Sutton Hoo Ship-Burial*, by Rupert Bruce-Mitford. He naturally needed to justify the scale and intensity of his project. The 1939 drawing is treated as important evidence, but not as the full story. Volume I spends a whole page (pp 234-5) detailing its limitations. Volume I also speculates how the ship was lowered into its trench (there was no evidence of a ramp), how the sides of the trench were backfilled, how the mound was constructed, and what happened to the ship over time.

Surely the ship was evenly trimmed at the time of the Anglo-Saxon ceremonies, so how did it come to settle tilted and broken-backed after centuries under the mound? Various theories concern irregularities in the bottom and lower sides of the trench, how the backfilling between the sides of the ship and the trench may not have been very well packed, and the nature of the eventual collapse of the

mound above the burial chamber.

In 1939, Charles Phillips had been chosen to take charge of the excavation. An eminent archaeologist, he was also just the man to put together a high-powered team in short order. Volume I reproduces Charles Phillips' diary of the excavation, with footnotes by Bruce-Mitford. One of the notes hints that the selection of the Science Museum to do the survey had raised the hackles of the National Maritime Museum. This may suggest that Commander Hutchison and his team had a good reputation and were worth sticking out for. Hutchison himself made a couple of brief visits for reconnaissance, and the diary says that on the afternoon of Tuesday 8th August the team of three arrived and '...orders were given in Woodbridge for the construction of the necessary wooden apparatus for the survey'. On Monday 21st August 'The survey of the after end of the boat was continued and by the end of the day it had been nearly finished'. The team spent at least eleven working days there.

Phillips entrusted Hutchison with cutting several archaeological sections to try and find out more about the stem, the keel and the stern. Another footnote in Volume 1 says that at this phase of project Hutchison took charge of most of the work at the site, while Phillips 'was able to consider the problems of the ship at leisure and discuss them with Commander Hutchison.' All in all, this suggests that Hutchison discharged the survey in a confident and capable manner.

We have some idea of how he did it from a paper in the *Transactions of the Newcomen Society*,

(23, pp 109-116). This was written by his assistant A. S. Crosley, an engineer who was a member, and later a vice-president, of the Society. He presented his paper at the Science Museum on 21st April 1943. (Volume I makes no specific reference to the paper, but lists it in a general bibliography.)

In the Mercie Lack photo, Hutchison may be on the left. Crosley is the man in the brown lab coat\*. The datum line, a 'stout cord' anchored at points beyond the bow and the stern, is clearly visible. The datum line, a 'stout cord' anchored at points beyond the bow and the stern, is clearly visible. The two posts are firmly stayed and have slots in their tops through which a horizontal rail (much foreshortened in the photo) can slide back and forth. The rail was first aligned with plumb bobs hanging from the datum cord. Bobs hanging from the rail then act as verticals above the line of the keel. To measure the position of a particular clenched nail, one end of a suitable lath was held against the nail, the lath was levelled, and the rail slid along so a plumb line was adjacent to the lath. 'The horizontal distance between plumb line and nail was noted as well as the height of the lath above the keel in this position, three of us being occupied in these measurements.'

The wooden rail allowed work to progress down a length of four ribs of the ship before the men released the stays, moved the posts, and started again. 'In this way most of the particulars of the nails were obtained until the rake of the stem and the stern became too steep for this method to be used further. A bosun's chair was then erected and

suspended over the bow and the stern and from it the measurements and sketches of the nails and ribs in these positions were made.' It is not clear how the deviations in the direction of the keel, the stem and the stern were handled.

At each cross-section, Hutchison now had horizontal and vertical measurements for a set of points located across the inside surface of the tilted hull. He could plot these on graph paper. Provided he could identify two points that corresponded exactly to each other on opposite sides of the hull, he could work out the tilt for that particular section. How would he 'un-tilt' this plot? In those days a drawing office must have had a quick and effective technique. Today it might be easier to use a few key measurements to work out the angle of tilt first; all of the measurement values can then be processed in a spreadsheet to obtain the equivalent levelled values before doing the plot.

The team scraped away the sand at the centre of a number of ribs to find their 'keel spike'. With a surveyor's staff placed on top of the spike, and a builder's level set up beyond the stern '...several readings were taken... These readings were the means by which the [vertical] line of the keel and the stem and stern posts were plotted'.

There is an intriguing detail. The British Museum's inventory for rivets etc. mentions '...in all some 1560 items, all of iron heavily oxidised' (Volume I, p 451). This includes the items removed by the Science Museum. Crosley is more specific – 'Some of the nails were so rusted that they could be broken across by hand, and were found to be

hollow....Many of the nails were still solid, however, and one of them had to be sawn through with a hacksaw and appeared to be wrought iron of good quality.'

Surveying the ship would not have been a simple task, and working out its original shape would require enormous skill and judgement, upon which we are greatly and gratefully dependent today.

**Joe Startin © 2018**

**\* Editor's comments:**

There are very few photographs of Lieutenant-Commander Hutchison actually facing the camera so we can not be sure that it *is* him! A. S. Crosley appears in other Sutton Hoo photos in that distinctive lab coat. Also, comparing the Mercie Lack photograph with other similar ones, I suspect that the ship survey photo has been transposed; port becoming starboard! Easily done when developing from negatives. As it was supplied by the British Museum, I have kept it as it was sent to me. ❖

**"Adventum Saxonum: material culture, DNA, and identity in the migration period", presented by Dr Duncan Sayer**

The SHS AGM took place at 7 pm, on Friday 23rd February 2018, at the King's River Cafe, National Trust, Sutton Hoo. Following SHS business, all of which is minuted, there was a talk by Dr Duncan Sayer, from the University of Central Lancashire. As a field archaeologist, he has directed recent excavations at Oakington early Anglo-Saxon cemetery and discovered post-Roman phases at Ribchester Roman Fort, Lancashire.

The focus of Dr Sayer's talk, entitled: "*Adventum Saxonum*: material culture, DNA and

identity in the migration period", was the early Anglo-Saxon cemetery (AD 350-700) at Oakington village, Cambridgeshire, where he had directed excavations over several seasons, from 2010. Prior to the more recent discoveries, four early Anglo-Saxon burials, one with a spear, knife and shield boss, had been found in 1926. In the 1990s, 26 more burials came to light and were excavated by Cambridgeshire's Archaeological Field Unit. In 2006 and 2007 Oxford Archaeology East recovered 17 more burials. The accumulating evidence suggested an early Anglo-Saxon cemetery for a small Fenland community.

The Oakington Dig project began in 2010 as a research project with one of its aims being an attempt to discover the full extent of the cemetery and understand more about the population that lived and died in Anglo-Saxon Oakington. In 2010 and 2011 students and researchers returned to the site, opening new trenches and revealing 27 further burials. These inhumations included a pregnant woman, a warrior, a woman uniquely buried with a cow and, most exceptional of all, a large number of 6th-century infant burials, notoriously rare finds in cemeteries for this period.

Dr Sayer's talk concentrated on select graves, to illustrate the types of burials encountered and how these burials can be interpreted. For instance, excavated in June 2011, from the periphery of the burial ground, grave 57 contained the remains of a woman with an *in situ* foetus lying traverse across her pelvic cavity, a presentation which was the probable cause of the double fatality during

childbirth. She was aged between 25 and 30 and was buried supine in full dress held together with a cruciform brooch and two small long brooches and wrist clasps. Also, with her were beads, belt fittings, an iron purse ring and a knife. Despite the marginalisation of her burial, her grave assemblage marked her out as one of the three most high-status burials in the cemetery. The burial was dated to the mid-sixth century.

Another burial of note, from 2012, was a woman buried beside a whole cow, an enigmatic and unique discovery. Her dress was fastened by two small silvered brooches, and she also wore necklaces of amber and glass beads. She had a complete chatelaine, symbolic of her high status and an indication that she was most likely buried in the late fifth century. The skeleton of the cow showed signs of its having been skinned and is taken as another expression of the woman's high status. As a highly valued food source, important to a community's survival, the cow symbolised economic and domestic wealth and power. Animal burials are extremely rare from this period and those that do occur are usually of male inhumations accompanied by horses.

Early Anglo-Saxon migrations are assumed to start soon after the withdrawal of the Romans from Britain. There is still much debate as to how much of an impact of these migrations; whether large numbers of Anglo-Saxon immigrants replaced the indigenous populations of Britain, creating a strong segregation between the two, or whether a small number of elite migrants introduced a new

culture which was assimilated by the British. Dr Sayer's talk went on to explain how further examination of some of the skeletons and of a particular artefact from the Oakington cemetery has given a little insight into the make-up of the Oakington Anglo-Saxon population.

Samples of ancient DNA were taken from four individuals from the burial ground. Two fifth-century people were found to have genetic profiles which were genetically similar to modern Dutch profiles, thus they were immigrants, while the third was an admixed individual, suggesting intermarriage, and the fourth was much closer in profile to Iron Age samples and, therefore, was 'British'. Overall, the cemetery had indicated that it was of a culturally Anglo-Saxon community, yet their DNA showed that the people were genetically mixed.

A cruciform brooch from the Oakington cemetery carried enamel, confirmed by Microfocus XRF analysis. The cruciform brooch is a typically Anglo-Saxon object, but enamelling is usually considered to be a British decorative technique. However, there is a small corpus of Anglo-Saxon objects which have been enamelled. A British craft was adopted for the new culture and the discovery of an enamelled Anglo-Saxon artefact supports the evidence for a mixed community.

Dr Sayer's fascinating talk was about understanding a small Fenland community, not about treasure or kings, but about people; ordinary families and how they chose to respect their dead wherever they originated from. ❖

**Further reading**

Sayer, D. and Dickinson, S. (2013) *Death and the Anglo-Saxon Mother*, British Archaeology, 132: 30-35.

Sayer, D. & Wienhold, M. (2013) *A GIS-investigation of Four Early Anglo-Saxon Cemeteries: Ripley's K-Function analysis of spatial groupings amongst graves*. Social Science Computer Review 31(1):70-88

Sayer, D. & Dickinson, S.D. (2013) *Reconsidering Obstetric Death and Female Fertility in Anglo-Saxon England*, World Archaeology 45(2): 285-297

Sayer, D., Mortimer, R. and Simpson, F. (2011) *Anglo-Saxon Oakington: Life and death in the East Anglian Fens*, Current Archaeology, 261: 20-27.

And, if you want to know more about enamelwork on Anglo-Saxon artefacts, ask your editor!

The Sutton Hoo Society's Basil Brown Memorial Lecture was held on 5th May at the Riverside Theatre, Quayside, Woodbridge. It was presented by Nancy Edwards, Professor of Medieval Archaeology at Bangor University, North Wales.

Professor Edwards was awarded a British Academy Research Leave Fellowship (2006-8) to complete her study of early medieval stone sculpture and inscriptions in Wales. Of the three regional volumes of the *A Corpus of Early Medieval Inscribed Stones and Stone Sculpture in Wales*, volumes II (South-West Wales) and III (North Wales) are her work. She was involved in the excavation and post-excavation work of Project Eliseg, a collaboration between Bangor University and the University of Chester. The distinctive Pillar of Eliseg, was originally a ninth-century round-shafted cross monument, with a lengthy Latin inscription, atop a multi-phased Early Bronze Age kerbed cairn, located near Valle Crucis Abbey, in

Denbighshire, north Wales. More recently, Professor Edwards has been awarded a Leverhulme Major Research Fellowship to write a book on *Life in Early Medieval Wales*, which she is working on now.

Professor Edwards's lecture was entitled, 'Western British Archaeology in the Age of Sutton Hoo' and looked at the archaeological evidence for what was occurring in the western region of Britain, particularly Wales, at around the same time that the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms were beginning to emerge. There is a suggestion that Romano-British political and social organization, as well as Christianity, continued, in some form and to some degree, long after the legions had withdrawn, and Professor Edwards gave many examples of the types of evidence that supports the idea of this continuity.

Still very little is known about the whole of Britain in the period immediately after the withdrawal of Roman rule at the beginning of the fifth century. Knowledge of the establishment of early medieval kingdoms, the spread of Christianity, the early church and its structure, is sparse because of the lack of contemporaneous documents and that the period is also very difficult to identify archaeologically. However, a large number of inscribed stones which date from *c.* AD 450-650, have been recorded from Wales and provide valuable clues towards the understanding of this early period in the west.

Many of these stones were found in churchyards or built into churches, but others were located in cemeteries or beside Roman roads and their inscriptions indicate that they functioned

primarily as commemorative grave markers, even though none have been proven to be archaeologically associated in a primary context with a grave.

(royal court) of Aberffraw has led to the view that the two were connected, with Llangadwaladr being the site of a royal burial ground of the kings of Gwynedd from the early seventh century.



*The Cadfan Stone.* Photo: Nancy Edwards.

Although the inscriptions are most commonly in Latin, with Latin-influenced epigraphy and some Roman names, they also include British and Irish names. The carving of stones and the use of Latin make a reference to a Roman past. There is also the use of Roman terms such as individuals being described as 'citizen' and 'magistrate'.

Few of these monuments can be reasonably securely dated. However, on Anglesey, in the parish church of Llangadwaladr, is a Latin-inscribed stone, which names Catamanus as 'wisest and most renowned of all kings' ("*Catamanus rex sapientissimus opinatisimus omnium regum*"), a phraseology reflecting not just literacy, but the influence of Old Testament ideas of kingship. Catamanus may be identified as Cadfan, one of the early kings of Gwynedd who died *c.* AD 625, providing a *terminus post quem* for the inscription. The proximity of Llangadwaladr to the ancient *llys*

The Llantrisant Stone, from Capel Bronwen, Anglesey, is quite unusual as one of the few stones commemorating a woman. Sadly, her full name is unknown as only the feminine ending is legible, but a great deal of the text is devoted to her husband, referring to him as an ecclesiastic; a priest or a bishop and possibly a monk. The stone reveals that there was an organised church on sixth-century Anglesey and that it was not unusual for priests to be married.

Wales has the greatest number of ogham stones of any region outside Ireland, with large numbers in the south-west and to a lesser extent the south-east, but only three in the north. The Welsh ogham stones date to the fifth and sixth centuries, and most of them have a dual inscription, in Latin on the face of the stone, and in ogham/Irish along an edge of the stone. The use of ogham on these stones reflects Irish contact and supports Irish settlement in

Wales, particularly in the south-west.

Professor Edwards also addressed the archaeological evidence for external contacts with western Britain. From a number of sites of the 'Irish Sea Province', discoveries of exotic imports of Mediterranean pottery, glassware, and amphorae, in the fifth to seventh centuries, imply trade links with the Mediterranean and western France. Dinas Powys, Glamorgan, a fifth- to seventh-century hillfort, is an example of one of these sites.

The remnants of a Roman way of life appears to have continued, with evidence of Romano-British, Christian, literate communities surviving and drawing upon Roman traditions and with some elite groups involved in far-distant trade.

Professor Edwards's lecture was very well-attended and prompted a lot of questions from the audience. Many commented afterwards that they had found the lecture extremely enlightening. ❖



#### WUFFINGS EDUCATION STUDY DAYS

**September 22nd - The Black Death with Professor Mark Bailey (University of East Anglia).**

*The Black Death of 1348-49 is the greatest catastrophe in documented English history, killing nearly half the population and terrorizing the survivors. This course reveals the fruits of three years of new research and of re-thinking its impact upon the economy and society of late fourteenth-century England.*

At Suffolk Punch Trust, Hollesley

**September 29th – The Landscape of Suffolk Place-Names with Dr Keith Briggs (Independent Scholar).** *We shall investigate the place-names of Suffolk from the point of view of what they reveal about the landscape of the past. We will look especially at the names of the smaller features such as fields, tenements, greens and commons, lanes, woods, and parks, mainly as recorded in the medieval period.*

At Suffolk Punch Trust, Hollesley

**October 6th - The Horse in Early Anglo-Saxon England with Chris Fern (Heritage Consultant, University of York).** *From the very beginning of Anglo-Saxon culture, the importance of the horse is signified by the names of the legendary warrior-founders of the English-speaking peoples in Britain, Hengest and Horsa. Equine imagery is also prominent in early Anglo-Saxon art. Added to this is considerable archaeological evidence for horse sacrifice in both cremation and inhumation burials of the 5th to 7th centuries, often with highly ornate tack.* At Suffolk Punch Trust, Hollesley

**October 13th - 1066 Year Zero? With Dr Sam Newton (Wuffing Education).** *For many people, the Battle of Hastings marks the beginning of English history. On the eve of its 952nd anniversary, we shall reconsider this view in the context of the contemporary sources for the history of England in the 11th century.*

At Suffolk Punch Trust, Hollesley

**October 20th - New Thoughts on Old Swords: The Sword in Early England from the 5th to 7th centuries. Paul Mortimer (Independent Scholar).** *Much of the evidence for Anglo-Saxon swords derives from the excavation of graves and many ideas about them have been based on that. But does a sword always indicate 'high-status', or are patterned sword-blades really rare? We will consider these and related questions along with new ways of thinking about them.* At Suffolk Punch Trust, Hollesley

**November 3rd - Beowulf, Sutton Hoo, and the Wuffings with Dr Sam Newton (Wuffing Education).**

*An introduction to the Old English epic of Beowulf and its implications for our understanding of Sutton Hoo and the culture of the Wuffings of East Anglia. We shall see how its splendid language brings to life the bare bones of the archaeology and how the latter authenticates the golden world of the poem.*

At Suffolk Punch Trust, Hollesley

**November 17th - Raising the Dead: The Archaeology of Anglo-Saxon Death and Burial with Dr Richard Hoggett (Heritage Consultant).**

*Burials constitute a large part of the archaeological record from Anglo-Saxon England, and this study-day uses the rich East Anglian burial record to explore the range of funeral rites.*

*Subjects to be covered include cremation, inhumation, the use of grave-goods, and the impact of Christianity. The day will be illustrated with examples which will include recent and unpublished excavations.*

At Suffolk Punch Trust, Hollesley

**November 24th - Reconstructing 13th-century Society and Landscape: the Bishop of Ely's Fenland Estates with Dr Sue Oosthuizen (University of Cambridge).** *The Ely Coucher Book is a record of the Bishop of Ely's vast fenland estates in 1249-50, so comprehensive it was too fat to stand and had instead to lie down as if asleep (from the French coucher, 'to sleep'). Because the same questions were asked on each manor, and the work of collection, recording and analysis was undertaken in a single phase within a consistent framework by a centrally co-ordinated team, it provides a detailed portrait of many aspects of daily life across a large medieval region. From this great book, we can reconstruct everyday lives across that mid-13th-century landscape to try to understand 'what really happened in that land of mystery which we call the past'.*

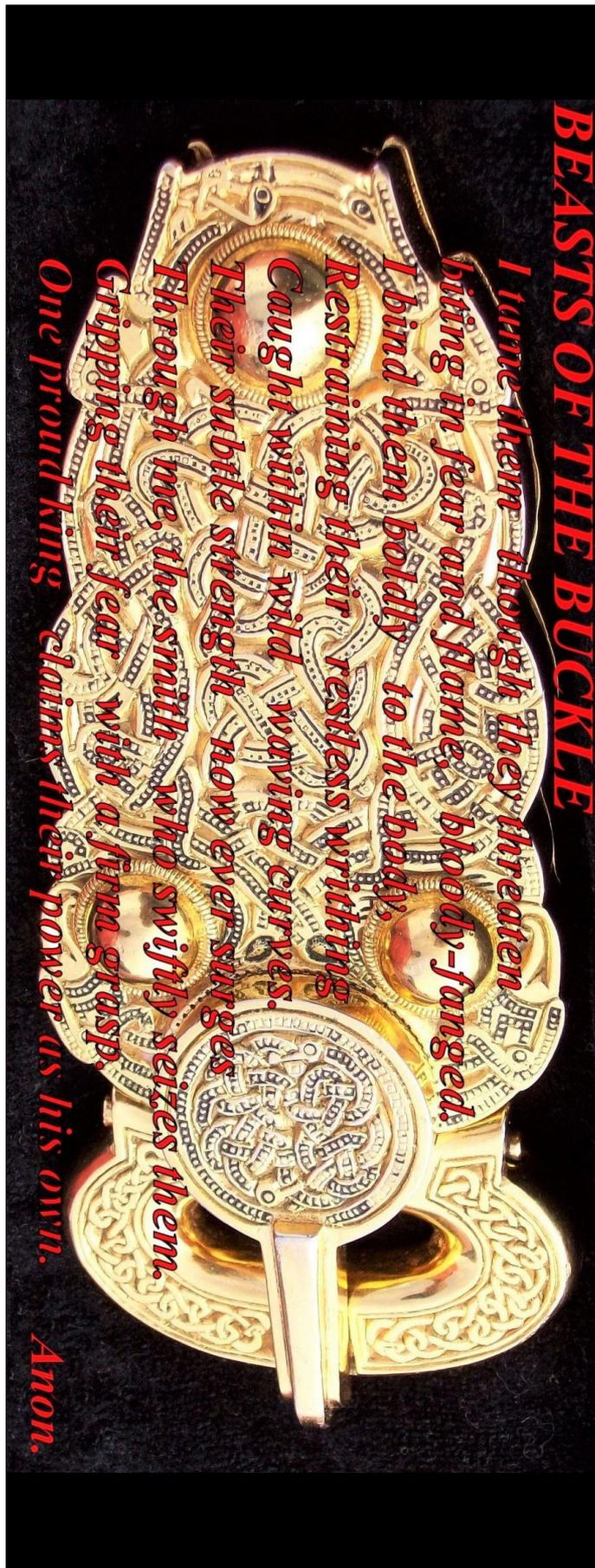
At Suffolk Punch Trust, Hollesley

**December 1st - Castles, Moats, and Feudal Symbolism in Medieval Suffolk with Edward Martin (Retired Archaeologist & Independent Scholar).** *Castles – and the less monumental but related moated sites – are powerful and evocative symbols of the medieval feudal system. We shall examine the history and development of those in Suffolk, exploring both their physical and symbolic values.*

At Suffolk Punch Trust, Hollesley

**December 8th - The Old English Yuletide Feast with Dr Sam Newton (Wuffing Education).** *Rediscover the magic of Christmas with an exploration of the significance of the midwinter festival in early England and how it was celebrated. This will include a look at the Old English calendar, which reveals how the pre-Christian year was structured, and how it was transformed into the Christian year, in the light of early medieval art, poetry, and archaeology.*

At Suffolk Punch Trust, Hollesley



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