

LANDSCAPE
SURVEY GROUP
Quarterly news bulletin

May 2015

Apologies for the delay in getting this out. Work and other pressures I'm afraid. Nevertheless I hope there is some interesting and relevant information in here for you all.

I do rely on members passing items of interest to me, so if news items crop up during the rest of May or June, or you spot any events in July to December (or later but with deadlines during the same period) please pass them on to me at any time – magnus.alexander@HistoricEngland.org.uk. Thanks in advance.

News

On the 21st March, the LSG Spring Meeting and AGM took place in Edinburgh hosted by RCAHMS. A successful and enjoyable time was had by all, with interesting short papers on fieldwork methods and results presented by David Went and Helena Kaldre, and a really interesting jellybaby-fuelled stomp around the archaeology of Holyrood Park, led by Angela Gannon. Excellent pointing skills were demonstrated by all (thanks to Becca Pullen for the photos).



Mark Bowden reports the successful conclusion of the 2015 Archaeological Landscape Field School at Warwick University during the week of the 20th April . With Trevor Pearson and Marcus Jecock he put 8 enthusiastic students through their paces on a rather splendid earthwork castle in almost continuous sunshine. Student response was very positive; 'I learnt a lot and I also thoroughly enjoyed it!' was one comment. However, we have to note again the difficulty of recruiting to this course and it may be no coincidence that the Wessex Academy for Field Archaeology course on earthwork survey, which was due to take place next month, has been cancelled due to the small number of bookings.

There is a move to help with the Nepal crisis by using open source online mapping software to digitise the remote unmapped valleys of Nepal, marking where buildings are (or were) and where there might be open/flat areas large enough to land a helicopter. It can be done from the comfort of your own home via the internet using your own computer. Archaeologists/ geographers/GIS-folk/AutoCAD-folk etc couldn't be better placed to help really. You can read more here, and consider donating an hour or so of your time to the process: <http://www.citymetric.com/horizons/you-can->

[help-nepals-rescue-efforts-mapping-heres-how-987](#) This link has also been shared through our Twitter feed (@LandscapeSurvey). Obviously, you can also donate cash via the Disasters Emergency Committee and so forth: <http://www.dec.org.uk/>.

Members may be interested to know that some members of the ClfA are attempting to set up an Equality and Diversity Special Interest Group and members on Twitter may wish to see the discussion about sexism and archaeology by following #everyDigsexism to share experiences or to see how prevalent sexism is within archaeology. EveryDigSexism also has a wordpress blog page, so you can access updates without having a Twitter account: <https://everydigsexism.wordpress.com/>.

Events

As ever, the Britarch briefing page is always useful and covers fieldwork, lectures and conferences: www.britisharchaeology.org/briefing.

May 18-20th - A bit late in that day if you're not already signed up but the third CHeriScope (www.cheriscap.eu) conference - LANDSCAPE AS COMMUNITY - takes place in Oslo.

June 5-7th - www.cba-wessex.org.uk have a weekend guided trip around Salisbury, Avebury and Salisbury Plain. Other events on their website may also be of interest.

September 2nd-5th - At EAA Glasgow 2015, the 21st Annual Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists, the LSG is co-hosting a session under the Legacies & Visions theme: '*Landscape legacies in World Heritage Sites – recording for management and conservation and management*'. More details are available on our website (http://landscapesurvey.org/?page_id=246).

September 4-6th - The Society for Church archaeology and the Medieval Settlement Research Group are organizing a joint conference entitled Church and Settlement: Rural churches and the medieval landscape. This will take place at the University of Leicester. Details at <http://www.archaeologyuk.org/socchurcharchaeol/conferences/conf15/conf15.html>.

September 7-11th - There are still a few places left on Historic England's 'Measured Survey for Cultural Heritage' course, a 5-day residential summer school based at Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal in North Yorkshire. It is designed to introduce the range of measured survey and photographic techniques currently available through both theoretical and practical instruction. More details can be found on the Historic England website (<http://www.historicengland.org.uk/news-and-features/news/measured-survey-for-cultural-heritage-2015>).

September 18-19th - No bias but... The LSG Conference 2015: '*Landscape Narratives: creating stories from archaeological survey*' takes place in Shrewsbury. We are still inviting proposals for papers that address the theme of the conference. If you would like to contribute a 20 minute paper for the first day, please send a title and short abstract (250 words maximum) to Mark Bowden, by Friday 29th May. More details are on our website (http://landscapesurvey.org/?page_id=249) and attached.

Finally...

Thanks to all contributors and once again, any items for inclusion in the next newsletter to me (magnus.alexander@HistoricEngland.org.uk) by the end of June please.