

**CAMBRIDGE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY**

Publicity Officer
CAS Office, Room 304
Haddon Library
Downing Street
Cambridge
CB2 3DZ

Tel. 01223 333322
publicity@camantsoc.org
www.camantsoc.org

CAS Archaeology Opportunities for the Cambridgeshire Region - 2026

Affiliated groups and societies, as well as professional archaeology organisations, have offered the following opportunities to our members: [NOTE: Some of these also offer opportunities for historians to carry out research.] We hope more will provide opportunity details in future circulars. It is also recommended that you have an up to date tetanus vaccination to carry out excavations and finds team work.

Histon & Impington Archaeology Group, (HIAG,) Field walking opportunity in Impington parish March to April 2026. We would be more than happy to fit in one or two students. If there are any takers I will send them our information which includes risk assessment, health and safety. We have public liability insurance. Contact Arnold Fertig at: hisimp.archaeology.group@gmail.com Their website has further details about their activities and events. <https://hiarchaeology.wordpress.com>

Warboys Archaeology Group, (WAG,) A further excavation in the grounds of Ramsey Abbey is planned for August 2026. The potential site of the hythe used to bring building materials such as stone from Barnack and all the other commodities needed to build and maintain one of the five great Fenland Abbey's is being dug over two weeks. Metal detecting, photography and finds processing of any artefacts found will be required. Dates: Wednesday 22nd to Friday 24th July - 3 days excavation
Monday 27th Friday 31st July - 5 days excavation
Monday 3rd to Friday 7th August - 5 days excavation
Saturday 8th August - visitors day 10.30 to 16.00
Monday 10th and Tuesday 11th August - Excavating finishes, drawings, drone captures final date, and site survey
Wednesday 12th and Thursday 13th August - Backfilling.
If you would like to be part of the team for this excavation please let Roger Mould know and if possible how many days you would like to be on site. Contact; roger.mould@hotmail.com

Oxford Archaeology's (OA,) Cambridge Office at Bar Hill have periodic volunteer opportunities for on-site archaeology and all year round to work with their 'finds team.' They offer experience in cleaning, conserving, researching, marking up, cataloguing and storing functions. Artefacts include lithics, ceramics, metal, glass and bones from a wide variety of species, including human. Please contact Stephen Macaulay or Chris Thatcher at OA to express an interest; (website link.) [Contact Us | Oxford Archaeology](#)

Dedicated to the safeguarding, investigation and preservation of Cambridgeshire's past.
Registered Office: Haddon Library, Downing Street, Cambridge, CB2 3DZ.

Notice of the 2026 CAS AGM

Please put the date in your diary, Monday 13th April from 5.00pm at the University of Cambridge Law Faculty, 10 West Road, Cambridge CB3 9DZ. The agenda, previous year's minutes, annual report and council nominations will be sent out quite soon. Nominations and renewals must be sent to the secretary at least two weeks before the AGM. Please note the current Hon Treasurer will be standing down, after several years in that post.

CAS Excursions 2026

Oscar Aldred will give a tour of Wandlebury, reporting the latest finds from the Department of Archaeology excavations. 4.00 pm Saturday 2nd May.

Visit to the Ascension burial ground, (Huntingdon Road) guided tour by Mark Goldie, at 10.00 am on Saturday 16th May followed by **Histon Road Cemetery** guided tour by Michael French at 11.30 am. Limited to 25 people. We will make donations to the two cemeteries for upkeep.

Magdalene Garden Party 3:30 - 6:00pm on Sunday 19th July. Tickets, cost t.b.c.

To book, contact the excursions organiser, Simon Stoddart, ss16@cam.ac.uk or 01223 333524. There is no charge for these events, unless specified.

CAS Spring Conference, 'Standing Cambridge Buildings - new perspectives.'
Cripps Court, Magdalene College on Saturday 14th March 2026.

NOTE: Fully booked, but a recording will be made available through our website, see Conferences section in the Members' area: www.camantsoc.org

Seventeen speakers offer new views of historic buildings and sites in Cambridge in three sessions, on topics ranging from building materials and structural form to the historical perspectives of archaeologists and building historians noted for their interpretations of the buildings of Cambridge. Organised by Jeremy Musson FSA Chaired by Prof Simon Stoddart, president of CAS.

Simon Stoddart - Cyril Fox and the relationship of archaeology and architectural history Origins and Landmarks

John Goodall; Craig Cessford; Christopher Evans; Elizabeth Deans; William Aslet

Materials and Meanings

Nigel Woodcock; James Campbell; Matt Cooper; Kieran Gleave; Frank Salmon

Historical Narratives/Narrators of Cambridge

Alexandrina Buchanan; Holly Smith; Oliver Caroe; Polly Hudson; Jeremy Musson & Simon Bradley - Nikolaus Pevsner and Cambridge

Dedicated to the safeguarding, investigation and preservation of Cambridgeshire's past.
Registered Office: Haddon Library, Downing Street, Cambridge, CB2 3DZ.

Cambridge Architectural History Seminars - Old Hall Queens' College. All from 6.00pm in person *with drinks* and online. Registration through the website:

<https://www.arct.cam.ac.uk/research/research-seminars/the-cambridge-architectural-history-seminars>

Monday 11 May, Roland Mayer, *Ruins of Rome*. In person or on Zoom from 6.00pm.

For more information visit: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/cambridge-architectural-history-seminars-115056922861>

Huntingdonshire Local History Society Lecture: The History of the Nene Valley Railway, Keith Alexander and David Hand, Wednesday 8th April, 7.30 - 9.30pm. At Huntingdon Methodist Church, 17 High Street Huntingdon. Parking at public car park on Maltling Close, PE29 3AR. Learn all about the history of the Nene Valley Railway which has had a remarkable history both in its operational heyday as part of the Northampton to Peterborough line and as the successful outcome of a campaign to preserve local industrial heritage to become a Preserved Railway tourist attraction. Please book by email to David Smith, info@huntslhs.org.uk

'Really Useful Family History Show' - Burgess Hall St Ives, Saturday 18th April. The society and CAS will have a stall at this all day event. The East Anglian Group of Family History Societies are holding their annual Family History Fayre. We will be selling our own publications and a quantity of local history books of our late member David Viles, but more than seeking income we aim to engage with people interested in both societies. For information on the event itself see:- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/rufhsstives2026/>

Cambridgeshire Association for Local History - Annual Conference, Saturday 11th April 2026. 'Landscape and Society, social development in Sawston, South Cambridgeshire'. From 9.30 am to 4.30 pm at Our Lady of Lourdes, Catholic Church Hall, 135 High Street Sawston, Cambridge CB22 3HJ

Programme

10:00am Arrival, Coffee and biscuits

10:15 am Introduction to Sawston : *Mary Dicken*

11:15 am Archaeology in South Cambridgeshire: *Richard Mortimer*

12:15 pm Morphology of Sawston: *Bill Franklin*

12:45 Lunch (please note lunch is not provided)

14:00 pm Celebration of Mary Challis: *Tim Wreghitt*

14:55 pm Religious Dissent and Non-Conformity: *Evelyn Lord*

15:30 pm Transport in South Cambridgeshire: *Tony Kirby*

16:15 pm Tea and cakes

Full details on pdf. below:

[CALH-SHS-A5 Fier-2026](#)

[Click here for Annual Conference Booking form](#)

Dedicated to the safeguarding, investigation and preservation of Cambridgeshire's past.
Registered Office: Haddon Library, Downing Street, Cambridge, CB2 3DZ.

Cambridgeshire Geological Society - Professor Mike Searle: Monday 13th April

2026, 'Colliding Continents.' At 7.30 pm (doors open 7.00 pm). Everyone welcome, free to CGS members, £3 for non members. Talks are held at St Andrew's Centre, Histon: Hall 1, St Andrews Centre, School Hill, Histon, Cambridge CB24 9JE. The Citi 8 bus stops outside the Centre and the Guided Bus is 15 minutes walk away. There is a free car park beside the Methodist church. The entrance is next to a building housing Corfield and Webb, solicitors, and Coral betting shop.

Fen Edge Archaeology Group - Friday 13th March, 7.30pm at Rampton Village Hall, 4 Church End, Rampton, Cambridge CB24 8QA 'Cambridge Park and Rides: Three Places in a Prehistoric Landscape' by Lawrence Billington (Oxford Archaeology)

Between 1996 and 2003 the then Cambridgeshire County Council Archaeological Field Group undertook extensive excavations ahead of the construction of three of the Park & Rides facilities on the outskirts of Cambridge – at Trumpington, Babraham Road and Newmarket Road. At the time these represented some of the largest excavations ever undertaken in the Cambridge environs, and all three revealed extensive remains of prehistoric settlement and funerary activity.

With the results of the excavations now due to be published as a monograph in the East Anglian Archaeology series, much has changed in the decades since the original fieldwork and the areas surrounding each of the Park & Ride sites have witnessed fresh, very extensive, programmes of fieldwork, with the landscape between the Trumpington and Babraham Road Park and Rides in particular now ranking as one of the most intensively investigated landscapes in the region.

This talk will present an overview of the prehistoric archaeology of the Park and Rides, which – alongside the results of other work in the area – provides a remarkably rich and full record of Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age activity on the southern and eastern edges of the modern city of Cambridge.

Lawrence Billington is a post-excavation Project Officer at Oxford Archaeology's Cambridge office and has worked in developer-led archaeology in Eastern England for over 15 years. He has previously talked to FEAG about the late Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic of the Fenland. **Admission: free for members of either society; £3 for non-members.**

Histon & Impington Archaeology Group - Monday 16th March at 7.30 pm**Drought and Conflict in the Late Roman Period with Charles Norman, PhD student at the University of Cambridge**

The role of climate on the Roman world was certainly important yet is difficult to demonstrate. This talk discusses research that brings together tree-ring derived climate reconstructions and late Roman historical sources to explore the effects of climate on conflict in the late Roman period. Charles will discuss large scale interactions between climate extremes (droughts/wet years) and conflict in the late Roman period. He will then explore the case study of the 'Barbarian Conspiracy' in Britain, and how this may have been influenced by a prolonged drought identified in oak tree rings from southern Britain.

Speaker Biography

Charles is a PhD student in the Tree Ring Unit (TRU) at the Department of Geography in Cambridge. His particular specialisation is oak dendrochronology in Britain, and has used these records to explore Roman climate as part of his Masters and early PhD

As usual the talk will be held in Histon Methodist Church, High St, Histon, 7.30 pm, and will also be available on zoom.

[Dedicated to the safeguarding, investigation and preservation of Cambridgeshire's past.](#)
[Registered Office: Haddon Library, Downing Street, Cambridge, CB2 3DZ.](#)

More details can be found [here](#) Admission is free for members. For those members wishing to attend by zoom, the link will be sent the day before the meeting. The cost to non-members is £4 payable at the venue or for on-line viewing by the purchase of Zoom tickets from our [Eventbrite page](#)

Society of Antiquaries of London, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London - Land's End to the Levant: Exploring the Bronze-Iron Age tin trade across Europe and the Mediterranean. Thursday 19 March, 12.30pm. Join us for our South West Fellows' Regional Group meeting to learn Project Ancient Tin, which wishes to 'fingerprint' tin ores and tin artefacts from Britain to the East Mediterranean, and re-evaluate the European Bronze Age (c. 2200-800 BC) tin trade. **This event will be both in person at Exeter University and online.** To book: https://www.sal.org.uk/event/lands-end-to-the-levant/?mc_cid=79da8ab2f4&mc_eid=346fc10a76 Attendance at Exeter University: 12.30pm: Ordinary Meeting and lecture (Matrix Lecture Theatre, Building One, Main Campus of the University of Exeter, Stocker Rd, Exeter EX4 4PY) Attendance online: The event will be live-streamed on Zoom (if you register) and recorded on our [YouTube channel](#). The event will begin at 12.30pm. You will receive an email reminder with the link to join the day of the lecture.

The Extraordinary Art Collection of Lady Charlotte Schreiber (1812-1895) Thursday 26 March, 5pm. Free in-person & online lecture. Lady Charlotte Schreiber was an extraordinary antiquarian, collector and connoisseur who dedicated her life to art, history, and cultural philanthropy. A self-taught artist and linguist, she wrote a celebrated translation of the medieval Welsh Mabinogion in the 1830s, sought out works by Holbein and Velázquez in the 1840s, and formed a remarkable collection of early modern European ceramics. To book: https://www.sal.org.uk/event/charlotte-schreiber/?mc_cid=79da8ab2f4&mc_eid=346fc10a76

All of our lectures are live streamed and are open to anyone to join us online, Fellows and Non-Fellows. To view any of our past lectures please visit our [YouTube channel](#).

Fenland Archaeology Society, 'Get Thee to a Nunnery' Dr Craig Cessford will speak to us on Wednesday 25 March at 7pm about his work on excavating medieval nunneries in Cambridgeshire. Craig will talk about medieval nunneries in the diocese of Ely. Nunneries were the most significant female institutions in Medieval England and the diocese of Ely was home to several including the abbeys of Chatteris and Waterbeach/Denny and priories in Cambridge, Ickleton, Papley/Eltisley, Swaffham Bulbeck and possibly Longstowe. Some of these have substantial surviving buildings and documentary records and there have been several archaeological excavations. Craig has worked locally for Cambridge Archaeological Unit for over twenty years and is currently writing up excavations at the nunnery of the Priory of St Radegund in Cambridge as well as researching nunneries more generally.

The venue is next to the Wisbech Asda and that is where most visitors park. The Wisbech General Cemetery Chapel is less than 5 minute's walk from the Asda car park. On leaving the car park, turn left and walk past the Nixon wood yard. There is then an alley on your left called Lambert Way. The Chapel is at the end of the alley and can be seen as you turn into it. Booking is essential by contacting: info@fenarch.or.uk Admission £4 for non-members, pay at the door.

[Dedicated to the safeguarding, investigation and preservation of Cambridgeshire's past. Registered Office: Haddon Library, Downing Street, Cambridge, CB2 3DZ.](#)

Spalding Gentlemen's Society Public Lecture Programme 2026. All lectures are held at Broad Street Methodist Church, starting at 7.30 pm. There is a £5 charge for everyone, payable at the door. Free entry for full-time students. See www.sgsoc.org/forthcoming-events for more information. Contact, Sue Martinelli Lecture Co-ordinator, The Museum, Broad Street, Spalding PE11 1TB Tel. 01775 724658, or visit the website: www.sgsoc.org

Friday 20th March – ‘Hiding in plain sight: The Greyfriars Lincoln, England’s oldest Friary Church’, presented by Mark Gardiner, Emeritus Professor of Medieval Archaeology at the University of Lincoln. The original function of Greyfriars in Lincoln has been debated over many years. When the building was restored in 2025, scaffolding was erected, allowing access to the medieval roof. It was possible for the first time in over a century to study the building in detail. This was accompanied by a laser survey of the building and a reappraisal of the documentary evidence. It has been possible to show that this was the first friary church, the earliest still-standing such building in England. It has allowed us to consider how far the Franciscans adhered to their ideals of poverty. The speaker, Mark Gardiner, is Emeritus Professor of Medieval Archaeology at the University of Lincoln. He worked at University College London, where he was assigned to Archaeology South East, becoming Deputy Director. He left in 1996 to work at Queen’s University Belfast, lecturing in medieval archaeology, before coming to Lincoln in 2017. He has worked across Britain, Ireland and Scandinavia, excavating sites and recording standing buildings.

If you would like your events to be featured in our next newsletter please contact; publicity@camantsoc.org

Could affiliate groups please disseminate this newsletter to your members.