

Forthcoming Merseyside Archaeology Society (MAS) Events:
 The next season of evening talks will resume (in-person) on Thursday 21st September

Summer fieldtrips 2023 April - September

If you are interested in attending any or all of them, **please contact the organiser of each outing that you wish to attend to register your interest.**

This provides the organiser with an indication of numbers involved, helps with coordinating travel arrangements, and means that you shouldn't get left behind anywhere!

More details of each outing will be provided to you after booking a place

WHEN	WHERE	MORE INFO	ORGANISER, Book by...
Saturday 13 th May COMPLETED	Childwall All Saints Church & cemetery, Liverpool, L16 5EY	Explore the graveyard and hear about MAS's long-term recording and archive project	Dave Roberts
Saturday 3 rd June COMPLETED	Ness Botanic Gardens & Experimental Archaeology (EARTH) Neston Rd, Ness CH64 4AY	Discuss the reconstructed henge and watch/take part in an experimental copper smelt Optional start at Burton village: vernacular houses, ice house, well	Sue Stallibrass
Saturday 15th July FULLY BOOKED	Loggerheads Country Park, Ruthin Rd, Mold CH7 5LH	Explore a landscape altered by lead mining, limestone quarrying & associated water management features	Roy Forshaw Roy.Forshaw@liverpoolmuseums.org.uk
SUNDAY 3rd September	Birkenhead Park (am) tbc Birkenhead Priory (pm)	Guided tour of the Park by park ranger (am) tbc: visit Birkenhead Priory (pm)	Ann Gemmell ann.gemmell1@btinternet.com by 30 th July if possible
Friday 8th – Sun 17th Sept:	Heritage Open Days The listings went live on 1st June	You can sign up to receive their newsletter: https://www.heritageopen days.org.uk/visiting	St Helen's Church, Sefton: Sue Stallibrass will provide car travel for 3 people from the nearest train station
Thursday 21st September	Quaker Meeting House, Liverpool	MAS indoor evening lectures resume	

And if you have any ideas of other outings that you would like MAS to organise next year, then please let Sue.Stallibrass@liverpool.ac.uk know!

Sat 15th July Loggerheads Country Park CH7 5LH



The level walk through mining spoil heaps

Photo: Roy Forshaw 30th April 2023

PLEASE NOTE This event is FULLY BOOKED

SATURDAY 15TH JULY

LOCATION: Meet outside the café for a 10.30am start at Loggerheads Country Park, Ruthin Road, near Mold CH7 5LH Grid Ref: SJ200628

TRANSPORT: private cars. Parking costs £2.00 for 4 hours & £5.00 all day (recommended)

ORGANISER: The visit will be led by Roy Forshaw, MAS Past Chair

BOOKING: to register your interest and book places, please email Roy Forshaw at Roy.Forshaw@liverpoolmuseums.org.uk by 24th June if possible, to receive further details.

NB This walk will also be offered to Merseyside Industrial Heritage Society and numbers will be limited to 15 people, so please contact Roy to book your place a.s.a.p.! **FULLY BOOKED**

TIMINGS: the visit will take about 4 to 5 hours. Please bring food and drink.

FACILITIES: there is a visitor centre, toilets and a café at the start and finish of the walk. (café open 10 – 4, but often very slow service)

THE VISIT will include: A watermill (sometimes in motion) beside the visitor centre, followed by a walk of approximately 4 miles over paths with optional detours into undergrowth and up slopes to look at building remains. The main path is flat and wheel friendly. We will not go into any mine workings but there is a chance to see inside the entrance of one or two.

The valley is filled with remains of lead mining and limestone quarrying, and water management features (weirs, leats, pumps etc) along the River Alyn

HAZARDS: Please wear sensible footwear and bring sunscreen, waterproofs etc.

AUGUST NO MAS FIELD TRIP (summer holiday season) The Events Team are still considering Lunt Meadows as a possible venue but only if a suitable activity or event is advertised by the Wildlife Trust (possibly next summer)

<https://www.lancswt.org.uk/nature-reserves/lunt-meadows>

SUNDAY 3rd September Birkenhead Park + another venue in Birkenhead



<https://www.gettyimages.co.uk/photos/birkenhead-park> accessed 3rd May 2023

Please contact Ann Gemmell ann.gemmell1@btinternet.com to express interest by 30th July, to help her book the guided talk in **Birkenhead Park**, which will be from 10.00 – 11.30am

NB The three industrial heritage venues (Grasshopper pumping engine, U-boat experience & Transport & Tram Museum) are all undergoing change in ownership or refurbishment by Big Heritage and may not be accessible. the Events Team are now considering a visit to **Birkenhead Priory** in the afternoon

<p>SUN 3rd Sept</p>	<p>Birkenhead Park (in morning) & (provisionally) Birkenhead Priory (afternoon)</p> <p>Big Heritage took on three industrial heritage venues in Birkenhead & Dean Paton gave a talk to MAS in October about their regeneration. But their accessibility is not yet guaranteed, so we are thinking of visiting Birkenhead Priory</p>	<p>We will have a 1.5 hour guided walk around the historic Birkenhead Park in the morning led by one of the rangers. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Birkenhead_Park#:~:text=Birkenhead%20Park%20is%20a%20major,civic%20park%20in%20the%20world.</p> <p>Members can then choose whether or not to stay for an afternoon visit. We are now considering visiting Birkenhead Priory in the afternoon. https://thebirkenheadpriory.org/</p>	<p>Leader: Ann Gemmell ann.gemmell1@btinternet.com</p> <p>TRANSPORT: plenty of public transport links to Birkenhead, but carshare might be helpful moving between venues.</p>
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Friday 8th – Sunday 17th September: Heritage Open Days

This is the annual festival that sees many heritage sites and venues in UK either open to the public when they are usually not accessible, or open for extra times and/or special events

<https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/>

This is a national (England) event, so if you are somewhere else in England in early to mid-September, it's worth checking to see if there's anything of interest there.

The **Wirral History and Heritage Association** will be putting up their own list here:

<https://sites.google.com/site/wirralhha/next-whha-event>

Here are some **Merseyside** examples from the national list (plenty more nearby in Cheshire, Lancashire & Greater Manchester).

Williamson's Tunnels, Liverpool will have guided tours on:

Saturday 9 September: Tours: 1100, 1200, 1300 & 1400

Sunday 10 September: Tours: 1100, 1200, 1300 & 1400

Saturday 16 September: Tours: 1100, 1200, 1300 & 1400

Sunday 17 September: Tours: 1100, 1200, 1300 & 1400

Places must be booked in advance

<https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/visiting/event/friends-of-williamsons-tunnels-williamsons-tunnels1>

Wavertree lock-up you can go inside on:

Sunday 17 September: 1200-1600

<https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/visiting/event/the-wavertree-lock-up5>

St Helen's Church, Sefton will be open on:

Friday 8 September: 1330-1600

Saturday 9 September: 1100-1600

Sunday 10 September: 1330-1600

Friday 15 September: 1100-1600

Saturday 16 September: 1100-1600

Sunday 17 September: 1330-1600

<https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/visiting/event/sefton-st-helens-church>

<p>Fri 8th – Sun 17th Sept</p>	<p>INFORMAL MAS VISIT: St Helen's church, Sefton https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/church/st-helen-sefton</p>	<p>Organiser: Sue Stallibrass</p> <p>TRANSPORT: car (public transport extremely difficult)</p> <p>Sue intends to visit the church on a Heritage Open Day. She can offer to pick up three people on an agreed date at a pre-arranged time from Blundellsands & Crosby train station (Merseyrail, Northern Line).</p>
<p>Exact date tba</p>	<p>St Helens Church, Sefton contains many interesting features and is usually easily accessible for a few days during the annual Heritage Open Days.</p>	

Date: If you are interested in visiting St Helen's in a small group, please contact Sue Sue.Stallibrass@liverpool.ac.uk and state your preferences for date and time.

I'll arrange to visit when there's a consensus!

NB it is open Fri, Sat & Sun both weekends, but times vary so please check them

Forthcoming online talks

Most societies, like ours, go outside during the summer and resume online talks in the autumn, but there are some special events:

15th – 30th July The **Council for British Archaeology's (CBA's)** annual **Festival of Archaeology**
this year the festival's theme is **Archaeology and Creativity**.

Wednesday 19th July 7.00 – 8.30pm **An evening with National Trust Archaeologists**. Four talks: Smallhythe, Beningbrough, chalkland habitat restoration, the Heritage and Archaeology Ranger Team (HART) initiative FREE but please book online in advance at:
<https://www.archaeologyuk.org/festival/festival-event-listing/an-evening-with-national-trust-archaeologists.html>

YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

Friday 21st July starting 08.00am **Ask an Archaeologist day (Twitter)**
<https://www.archaeologyuk.org/festival/festival-event-listing/askanarchaeologist-day-.html>

YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

Tuesday 25th July 12.00 **Museum of Liverpool Twitter conference**
Organised and hosted by Vanessa Oakden
<https://www.archaeologyuk.org/festival/festival-event-listing/museum-of-liverpool-archaeology-twitter-conference.html>

YOU CAN GET INVOLVED:

Thursday 27th July from 09.00am **A Day in the Life of an Archaeologist**. This is a site for lots of people's blogs. Anyone can take part: volunteers, students and professional archaeologists. It doesn't matter whether you have been involved in archaeology for many years or are just starting out.
<https://www.archaeologyuk.org/festival/festival-event-listing/a-day-in-archaeology-1.html>

Past online talks

Dr Mike Nevell: **The revised Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment of North West England** - compiled between 2016 and 2020 - summarising over a decade of archaeological, historic landscape, and historic building research within the region. Delivered to the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire (thanks to Brian Higgins for mentioning this)

<https://www.hslc.org.uk/past-events/february-2023-lecture-framing-the-past-updating-the-north-west-regional-research-framework-for-the-historic-environment/>

Other online resources

Virtual visits:

Fort Victoria, Isle of Wight

This website hosts a Sketchfab 3-D model (based on drone photos) that allows further exploration of surviving parts of Fort Victoria. Fort Victoria was one of a series of forts & defences built in the 1850s to protect the western Solent from a perceived French invasion threat. The model is part of a National Lottery Heritage Fund Fathoming the Future project that was led by the Maritime Archaeology Trust. You can find out more about the project [here](#).
www.skfb.ly/oGLp8

Museum of the American Revolution, Philadelphia, USA

The museum has launched a new, interactive online feature: **'Timeline of the American Revolution'** which uses objects from their collection.
www.amrevmuseum.org/timelines/timeline-of-the-american-revolution

The Forbidden City, Beijing, China celebrates its 600th anniversary this year. Google Arts & Culture presents an extremely wide range of resources to explore its many treasures and to 'step inside'
<https://artsandculture.google.com/project/treasures-of-the-palace-museum>

TWO NEW TV series available!

ONGOING LIVE: There is a new series (Series 4) of **The Great British Dig: History in Your Back Garden** presented by Hugh Dennis. One-hour programmes are being broadcast at **9.00pm on Thursday evenings (started on 15th June) on More4**. All episodes should become available online but they aren't there yet!

Alice Roberts presents four one-hour programmes (started Saturday 3rd June 9.10pm on Channel 4): **Ancient Egypt by train with Alice Roberts**. Starting at the coast with Alexandria, on to Cairo, then up the Nile to Luxor and then to Aswan (which will be broadcast 'live' on 24th June). All available at:
<https://www.channel4.com/programmes/ancient-egypt-by-train-with-alice-roberts>

Dates for your diary (mostly in-person events but some may be hybrid)

15th – 30th July The **Council for British Archaeology's (CBA's) annual Festival of Archaeology**
this year the festival's theme is **Archaeology and Creativity**.

A list of events (online or in person or hybrid) can be searched by date or location, and resources created for last year's festival can also be accessed at:

<https://www.archaeologyuk.org/festival.html>

This is a national festival (England, Scotland & Wales), so it's worth looking to see if there is an event eg tour or activity where you will be in the second half of July (ie the first two weeks of school holidays)

15th – 30th July The **Museum of Liverpool has special events** for the festival
<https://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/archaeology/archaeology-national-museums-liverpool/festival-of-archaeology>

These include:

Saturday 1 July, 2-3pm

A talk by Vanessa Oakden about the dig at the site of the Piermaster's house

Beyond the label: dock house dig, homes beneath our feet

<https://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/whatson/museum-of-liverpool/event/beyond-label-dock-house-dig-homes-beneath-our-feet>

several days: **Handling sessions with objects from the museum's collections**

Sat 15th, Sun 16th and every day **Sun 23rd-Sun 30th July**,

at **11am-12noon** and **1.30pm-4pm**

<https://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/whatson/museum-of-liverpool/event/close-archaeology>

various days: activities for very young children (3-7 years)

<https://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/whatson/museum-of-liverpool/event/little-diggers-adventures>

Tuesday 25th July the **MoL twitter conference** (see online events, above),

Wednesday 26th July at **10.30 – 12.00 Face Lab**: hands-on activities with specialists from Liverpool John Moores University's Face Lab. Explore computerised facial reconstruction and meet [Leasowe Man](#), Merseyside's oldest skeleton

<https://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/whatson/museum-of-liverpool/event/face-lab>

Wirral Vikings (aka Wirhalh Skip Felagr - The Wirral Ship Fellowship) will be holding their annual **Viking festival of re-enactments & demonstrations** at one more venue:

Saturday & Sunday 12th & 13th August Upton Viking Festival.

Venue: Warwick Park, Upton, Wirral

Come and see the harsh realities of life for Wirral's Hiberno-Norse Vikings & their Saxon neighbours. The Festival consists of Viking re-enactment, Craft stalls and attractions, Children's fair.

FREE ENTRY

Friday 8th – Sunday 17th September: Heritage Open Days (national)

Many are free to attend, but some have limited numbers so book early!

This is the annual festival that sees many heritage sites and venues in UK either open to the public when they are usually not accessible, or open for extra times and/or for special events.

One of this year's Highlights publicised in their monthly online newsletter is a visit to Williamson's Tunnels, Edge Hill, Liverpool.

See the Festival website (and the MAS programme, above):

<https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/>

15th - 17th September 2023 in Liverpool

The Church in North West Britain and its Connections

(The **Society for Church Archaeology Annual Conference 2023**)

The society's conferences are open to all and anyone interested is welcome to participate.

It starts with a keynote lecture on the Friday evening at the University of Liverpool, has papers all day on Saturday at the metropolitan cathedral, and has a fieldtrip to Norton Priory on the Sunday.

NB I can't find the full programme or booking details yet (as at 15th June).

<https://www.churcharchaeology.org/conferences>

PLEASE contact Sue with information about online resources and talks that you think other MAS members might be interested in.

Sue.Stallibrass@liverpool.ac.uk 22nd June 2023