

FESTIVAL OF BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGY

Saturday 13–Sunday 28 July

All events are free, no booking unless indicated

Every year organisations across the country take part in events showcasing the best of British archaeology. Get involved to see archaeology in action and learn about your local heritage.

FAMILIES

Ancient Discovery Drop-In

EC Sat 13 Jul, 1–4pm

Get involved with a sand pit dig, an archaeology hunt and mystery object handling.

Arty Archaeology: Medieval Tile Making

EC Sun 28 Jul, 10am–12pm

Make your own tile to take home with the East Oxford Archaeology Project.

Fantastic Finds

EC Sun 28 Jul, 1–3pm

See some of the fantastic finds the East Oxford Archaeology Project has uncovered in the last two years.



LECTURES

The Romans Who Shaped Britain

With Sam Moorhead, National Finds Adviser & David Stuttard, writer and lecturer

HLT Tues 16 Jul, 2–3pm

Drawing on the latest archaeological evidence and research and on original source material, this lecture gives a vivid new account of Roman Britain through the lives and exploits of its chief characters.

Michael Ventris, the Man Who Deciphered Linear B

With author Andrew Robinson

HLT Sat 20 Jul, 2–4pm

Among the Ashmolean's Minoan collections, discovered by Sir Arthur Evans, are clay tablets inscribed with Europe's oldest readable script, named by Evans 'Linear Script B'. For forty years, Evans tried to decipher the tablets, but the code was eventually broken by young amateur Michael Ventris, an architect by training. Ventris's biographer, Andrew Robinson, talks about Ventris's unconventional life, followed by a screening of the BBC drama-documentary *A Very English Genius*.

Life After the Romans: Anglo Saxons in the Upper Thames Valley

With Dr Chris Ferguson, Oxfordshire County Museums Service

HLT Tue 23 Jul, 2–3pm

Look at the legacy of the Roman occupation of Britain and how the Anglo-Saxons lived in the Upper Thames Valley.

Marcus Aurelius in Brackley

With Dr Susan Walker, Keeper of Antiquities, Ashmolean Museum.

HLT Thur 18 Jul, 2–3pm

In 2011, the Ashmolean acquired a bronze portrait head of Marcus Aurelius, discovered near Brackley, Northamptonshire. Susan Walker discusses this remarkable object and compares it with similar images of Roman emperors, gods and goddesses from south-east Britain. What was the emperor doing in Brackley and how was his portrait used there?