



Barbarians Prehistory

from the Mesolithic to the Iron Age

Michaelmas term 2022, Fridays, 4–5pm

Lectures will be given in the Institute Lecture Room & on Teams

Week 1: 14 October. Dr Susannah Harris, University of Glasgow

Well kept secrets: the remarkable textiles of Must Farm Late Bronze Age pile dwelling, c. 850 BCE

The pile dwelling of Must Farm, Cambridgeshire provides a remarkable window into a Late Bronze Age settlement, dated around 850 BC. The environmental and taphonomic conditions at the site preserved a wide range of organic materials, including a substantial assemblage of fibre and fabric artefacts. This lecture focuses on the evidence for the production of fibres, yarns, twined and woven fabrics excavated at Must Farm, and considers the unique contribution of this knowledge to understanding cloth in Late Bronze Age Britain.



Week 5: 11 November. Dr Stephanie Blankshein, University of Southampton

Islands of Stone: Investigating Neolithic crannogs in the Outer Hebrides

The Islands of Stone project was created to further investigate Neolithic crannogs, or artificial islands, in the Outer Hebrides. While Scottish crannogs have been investigated since the mid-19th century, in the past few decades that the date of crannog construction and use was pushed back to the Neolithic. Following on from these discoveries, this project was formed with two primary aims: to determine if Neolithic crannog construction and use was a wider spread phenomenon beyond the few known examples and to investigate one site in detail to better understand its construction, setting, and use. This presentation will cover the preliminary results from the first three years of this project including initial desk-based research, excavation and field surveys.



Week 6: 18 November. Dr Jane Sidell, Historic England

In the shadow of General Pitt-Rivers. Life as a 21st century Inspector of Ancient Monuments

This talk will look at the role of General Pitt Rivers in creating not only the first Ancient Monuments Act, but the role of Ancient Monument Inspector. There are now a group of Ancient Monument Inspectors who carry on his legacy to 'better protect the monuments'. The role has naturally shifted and changed over the 140 years since the first Act, and the nature of sites we protect has also changed. The job remains as important and rewarding though, and will be outlined with a series of case studies from the London area.

