



September 2022 Newsletter

Welcome to your **new-look** newsletter!

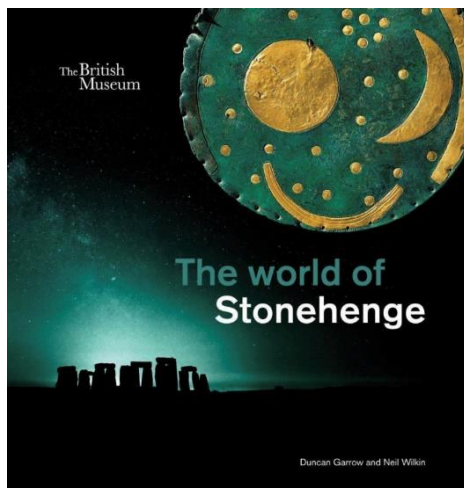
We hope that you are well and enjoying the summer. With Autumn fast approaching we are looking forward to the start of another fabulous year at the Society. In this edition:

1. *Lecture Programme 2022-23*
2. *First lecture: Dr Neil Wilkin, The World of Stonehenge*
3. *Second lecture: Dr Nick Card, Building the Ness of Brodgar*
4. *Renewal of annual subscriptions*
5. *PAS visit to the new Trimontium Museum, Melrose*

1) Lecture Programme 2022-23

As usual, September marks the start of our annual programme of talks by invited guest speakers – all experts in their fields – who will be looking back through the mists of time to explore a fascinating range of topics, from Iron Age craft working to conflict and violence in the Early Medieval period. Please see page 7 for the full programme. Some of our meetings will continue to be held online (especially during the winter months) but we start our autumn series with two ‘in person’ talks exploring recent research connected with two internationally known archaeological sites. Note: both of these talks will be delivered in person (subject to any changes in public health guidelines that may apply at the time).

2) First lecture: Dr Neil Wilkin, The World of Stonehenge



On **Thursday 15 September** we look forward to welcoming [Dr Neil Wilkin \(British Museum\)](#) to talk on ‘[The World of Stonehenge](#)’.

The *World of Stonehenge* exhibition was held at the British Museum in the first half of 2022. Only the second exhibition of its kind (the first was held in Edinburgh in 1984-5!), it garnered great critical acclaim, amazing visitors with displays of objects not just from Stonehenge but from across Britain, Ireland and north-west Europe. The age of

The cover of the World of Stonehenge book features the instantly recognisable silhouette of Stonehenge along with the extraordinary Nebrasp Sky Disc from eastern Germany (© Trustees of the British Museum)



Stonehenge was a time of connections, travel and big ideas. In his talk, Neil will reflect on the stories the exhibition told, what we learnt about the period while staging the exhibition, and the questions that remain to be answered - or asked!



Early Bronze Age objects on loan to the World of Stonehenge Exhibition included (left) the spectacular set of jet buttons found at Harehope Cairn near Peebles (© NMS). Right, Gold sun pendant from Shropshire displaying craftsmanship of exquisite quality c.1000-800 BC (© Trustees of the British Museum).

Dr Neil Wilkin is the Curator of Early Europe at the British Museum and was the lead curator of the *World of Stonehenge* exhibition, held earlier this year. He also recently co-curated an exhibition with English Heritage at the Stonehenge Visitor Centre. Neil has published widely on the Late Neolithic and Bronze Age in Britain and north-west Europe, most recently as co-author of the book associated with the exhibition.

Venue: St Joseph's Neighbourhood Centre, Rosetta Road, Peebles

Date: Thursday 15 September

Time: 7.30pm

As September is *Scottish Archaeology Month*, we will also be making a limited number of free tickets available to non-members on a first come, first served basis. Apply to Andy Jepson, Secretary, PAS at secretary_pas@outlook.com.

3) Second lecture: Dr Nick Card, Building the Ness of Brodgar

Then on **Thursday 6 October** we look forward to welcoming [Dr Nick Card \(UHI Orkney\)](#) to speak on the topic of '[Building the Ness of Brodgar](#)' - an opportunity to hear the results of recent research on this internationally important prehistoric site on Orkney.

Set in the midst of the Heart of Neolithic Orkney World Heritage Site, Ness of Brodgar is renowned for some of the most impressive buildings of the Neolithic



period in NW Europe. In this talk various aspects of their architecture will be considered, from the initial choice of the site and the procurement of materials to their construction and how they were roofed. Exciting new discoveries from the 2022 season will also be revealed!



View over the Ness of Brodgar site, with the Stones of Stenness and Barnhouse beyond the bridge (© Scott Pike)

Since moving to Orkney over 30 years ago, Nick Card has directed and managed a wide range of projects for the Orkney Research Centre for Archaeology within the University of Highlands and Islands Institute of Archaeology. His interests lie in all aspects of the prehistory of Britain and the Highlands and Islands with particular reference to the Neolithic. Since 2004, Nick has directed the campaigns of fieldwork at the Ness of Brodgar - a project that has achieved international recognition (including the distinction of being a *National Geographic* cover article!) and that has been the recipient of several national and international archaeological awards.



Vertical view of excavation trench showing the amazing complex of Neolithic buildings uncovered at Ness of Brodgar (@ Scott Pike)

Please note that as this is a special meeting additional to our monthly programme, it will be necessary to charge for tickets - however, if you are a member of PAS you will get a discount on the cost of the ticket and priority booking before tickets go on general sale.

Venue: The Studio, Eastgate Theatre

Date: Thursday 6 October

Time: 7.30pm

Ticket prices:

- PAS members £6 (priority booking until Sunday 18 September)
- From Monday 19 September, remaining tickets released for general sale at £8

To purchase tickets please contact Eastgate Theatre Box Office, either in person, via telephone (01721 725777) or online at:

<https://eastgatearts.online.red61.co.uk/event/5013:2985/5013:6976/>



4) Renewal of annual subscriptions

The arrival of September means that we are now inviting you to renew your annual subscription. Subscriptions are now due for the year beginning 1st September. Please find attached a renewal form with instructions. There is a Word and a PDF version. Please use whichever is easiest. If you do not wish to renew your subscription, I would be grateful if you could let Brian Tait know (brikath16@hotmail.com) as soon as possible to avoid troubling you with further reminders.

In coming to a decision, please bear in mind that as well as supporting our programme of talks, your subscription also helps to fund other essential expenditure such as our public liability insurance, Council for British Archaeology affiliation fees and printing costs.

5) PAS visit to the new Trimontium Museum, Melrose

This December our speaker at the joint meeting with the Tweeddale Society is due to be [Dr John Reid](#) on the topic of 'Trimontium - the face of Roman Scotland'. To set the scene for John's talk, we have arranged a group visit to see the new **Trimontium Museum in Melrose** on **Sunday 23 October**. Recently re-opened following a complete refurbishment of the galleries and exhibitions, the museum tells the story of the Romans in the Scottish Borders and their relationship with the local population. Our visit will combine an introductory talk by John with ample time to see the stunning new displays.



View of gallery (© Trimontium Museum)

**Travel:**

Members attending will need to make their own travel arrangements - but please try to car-share if you can. It would be helpful if you could indicate whether you would be prepared to offer a lift to members who do not have transport.

Date & times:

Sunday 23 October

Meet at 2pm at the entrance to the Trimontium Museum, Market Square, Melrose TD6 9PN.

Approximate duration of visit: 2 hours.

Cost (= discounted prices for group):

Adult £5

Concessions: £4

Booking:

As we will need to let the museum know the size of the group in advance, please book a place by emailing your name(s) to:

Trevor Cowie (trevor.cowie@btopenworld.com) and

Andrew Jepson (theandyjepson@hotmail.com)

by Friday 30 September.

Final details and arrangements for making payment will be sent out prior to the visit.

We are grateful for your continued support and look forward to seeing you at our first in-person talk in September.

Andrew Jepson

Secretary, Peeblesshire Archaeological Society

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PAS Twitter: [@PeeblesArchSoc](https://twitter.com/PeeblesArchSoc)

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Peeblesshire Archaeological Society Programme 2022-23

September 15 *	Dr Neil Wilkin, British Museum	The World of Stonehenge
October 6 **	Dr Nick Card, UHI Director of the Ness of Brodgar Project (= <i>Special event - separate charge for tickets</i>)	Building the Ness of Brodgar
October 20 *	Dr Angela Boyle, Edinburgh University	Violence and conflict in south-east Scotland from AD400 to AD850 – a biocultural study
November 17 #	Dr James O'Driscoll, Aberdeen University	Chevaux de Frise in Britain and Ireland
December 13 **	Dr John Reid, Trimontium Trust (= <i>joint meeting with Tweeddale Society</i>)	Trimontium – the face of Roman Scotland
January 19 #	Dr Lindsey Büster, York University	Underworld Encounters: a Prehistoric Mortuary Complex on the Moray Firth
February 16 #	Dr Steve Dockrill & Dr Julie Bond, Bradford University	Swandro Iron Age site, Rousay, Orkney
March 16 *	Dr Candy Hatherley, Headland Archaeology	Culduthel: An Iron Age Craftworking Centre
April 20 *	AGM and Members Evening	

Some meetings will be face-to-face and some will be online via Zoom. All will start promptly at 7.30pm. Instructions on how to access Zoom will be sent out to members beforehand.

Venues

* St Joseph's Neighbourhood Centre, Rosetta Road, Peebles

** Eastgate Theatre, Peebles

via Zoom