



## ARCHAEOLOGY ON YOUR DOORSTEP

The Greater York Community Archaeology Project began in March 2005 and has had a very successful first year and a half. The opportunity for local people to explore their past has never been greater, and this five-year project, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, has helped to stimulate local interest. Local communities have been encouraged to explore their heritage through the provision of free study days and workshops, free resources and equipment and advice and guidance from the Community Archaeologist. The number of local groups has almost doubled, which is partly due to the excellent network of groups in York, all linked by Timeline York Plus (TYP).

### Workshops and Study Days

The free study days (formerly called workshops) offered as part of the project are proving to be as popular as ever. Fifteen study days have been run so far, covering topics such as Historic Landscapes, Historic Buildings, Ancient Woodland, Fieldwork Techniques, Archive Research, Oral History and Palaeography. The study days are completely free and are run once a month, usually on a weekend. They are a great way to learn new skills, meet specialists and make friends. Get in touch with the Community Archaeologist to book your place!



Examples of local projects that the Community Archaeologist has helped with recently include recording the Royal Observer Corps building on the Knavesmire, and geophysical surveys of the medieval moated site at Nether Poppleton (with Poppleton Archaeology Group) and a possible Knights Templar site near Copmanthorpe (with South Ainsty Archaeology Society). The Community Archaeologist can also advise groups on how to start a project and get funding and how to carry out different types of research.

*Local projects assisted by the Community Archaeology Project: left to right, geophysical survey at Nether Poppleton, building recording on the Knavesmire, study days on ancient woodland and field survey.*

Eliza Gore, currently Community Archaeologist for York, will be leaving in September 2006 to take up a new post at the University of Winchester. A replacement Community Archaeologist will be appointed in October 2006. Eliza would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have supported the project through its first year and half.

## Schools

In March 2006 the Community Archaeologist was involved in a joint project with Fulford and Easingwold Secondary Schools. This project gave 40 pupils the opportunity to try their hand at geophysics, digging and recording artefacts in the village of Coxwold, North Yorkshire. They even got to work with Carenza Lewis, from Time Team, who ran the Higher Education Field Academy, aimed at encouraging pupils to study archaeology at university.

The Community Archaeologist has also been carrying out free workshops at local primary schools for Key Stage 2. These workshops involve looking at what archaeologists do, handling artefacts and doing online activities. They are completely free and carried out on school premises. Get in touch with the Community Archaeologist to find out more.



## Timeline York Plus

Timeline York Plus is an umbrella body of all the local archaeology and history groups in the York area. They meet every three months, with each meeting being hosted by a different group. They discuss what each group is doing and share ideas, resources and enthusiasm. It is a great way to find out what projects are going on in your area and you can come along to their next meeting in Copmanthorpe/Acaster Malbis on 28th October 2006. The Community Archaeologist has a list of contact details for local history and archaeology groups in Greater York – get in touch to find out more.

### Contact

Community Archaeologist  
Greater York Community Archaeology Project  
York Archaeological Trust  
47 Aldwark, York  
YO1 7BX  
Tel. 01904 663020

## Exhibition

An exhibition displaying the work of local history and archaeology groups was installed in York Central Library for three weeks in February 2006. This helped to raise awareness of the excellent projects that are being carried out on your doorstep. Keep an eye out for a similar exhibition, likely to be run early in 2007.

## EVENTS

### **York Archaeological Trust Bookfair**

21st October 2006  
St. William's College, York

### **Timeline York Plus meeting**

A gathering of local archaeology and history groups in the York area  
Saturday 28th October  
Copmanthorpe

### **Study day**

How to store, archive and display material  
Saturday 4th November 2006  
The Yorkshire Museum

### **Study day**

The use of computers in archaeology  
Saturday 2nd December 2006  
The King's Manor, York

### **Study day**

Using archives, old maps and Palaeography  
Saturday 20th January 2007  
York City Archives

### **Study day**

Environmental Archaeology – Bogs, Bones and Shells  
Saturday 17th February 2007  
Venue to be confirmed

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**Heritage Lottery Fund**

