

Dr Barry Molloy – University College Dublin

28/01/2021 4PM, ZOOM seminar for link email archaeology.society@ucd.ie

One Ring to Rule them All? Recent research on the origins and organisation of Bronze Age Europe's megaforts

ABSTRACT

This talk will present the results of remote sensing, survey and excavation work exploring Late Bronze Age settlement patterns in the southern Carpathian Basin. This region was a core area of Middle Bronze Age Europe, being well connected in continental exchange networks and a driving force in metallurgical traditions. The tell-centred social system which had dominated the landscape collapsed sometime around 1600-1500 BC, with virtually all major centres being abandoned. This has been for a long time considered a catastrophic social collapse. Recent research however is demonstrating not only was this landscape not depopulated and complexity lost, but a new form of political complexity emerged which probably included the emergence of larger political units. The most striking site in this settlement network, Cornesti Iarcuri at over 1750 Ha is the largest enclosed site in Bronze Age Europe, though it is surrounded by a network of other massive enclosed sites of different forms. We present here a newly identified network of enclosed sites along the River Tisza which are exceptional in their size, but also the clarity of their layout seen through remote prospection. We are currently exploring if the abandonment of these sites is part of a broader horizon of collapse and crises emerging around 1200 BC in Europe, the Mediterranean, North Africa and Southwest Asia

Dr Matthew Pope – University College London

18/2/2021 4PM, ZOOM seminar for link email archaeology.society@ucd.ie

Ice Age Islands: Approaching Jersey's Deep Prehistory and the Submerged Landscapes of the English Channel.

ABSTRACT

Ten years ago research was renewed on the Ice Age prehistory of the Channel Island of Jersey. A decade later we are beginning to share what we understand about how the wider now-submerged landscape of the English Channel, a land we call La Manche, was used by early people including Neanderthal populations and those of our own species. In this talk we'll explore the archaeological record of key site like La Cotte de St Brelade and Les Varines, where the earliest art in the region as recently discovered. We'll also consider the wider record of the northern French and southern British coasts

Bolaji. J. Owoseni - The Sainsbury Unit, University of East Anglia, Norwich, Great Britain, UK.

25/02/2021 4:00 PM, ZOOM seminar for link email archaeology.society@ucd.ie

My Fieldwork Research and COVID-19: Reflecting the impact of the Pandemic on My

Doctoral Archaeological Fieldwork Research in Ilorin, Kwara State, Northcentral Nigeria.

ABSTRACT

As part of my Doctoral archaeological research which I began in 2019, I conducted archaeological and ethnohistorical fieldwork in Ilorin Nigeria, a reputed ancient city in the northern Yoruba area in the early 2020. The fieldwork which was to be between January and June 2020 extended by another three months due to the lockdown occasioned by Covid-19. Though the pandemic came with some challenges, significant successes relating to my archaeological fieldwork were achieved. In line with the theme of this seminar my paper touches on some of my findings and discusses my experiences during the fieldwork research, and the impacts on it of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Seminar Dr Kate Franklin-Birkbeck, University of London

11/3/2021 4PM ZOOM Seminar for link email archaeology.society@ucd.ie

Living the Silk Road everyday: Archaeological research in medieval Armenia (13th-14th c)

ABSTRACT

As a metaphor for adventure, encounter and exchange, The Silk Road has shaped research and writing on the past, present and future of Eurasia for well over a century. Archaeologists working at global scales increasingly use the figure of the Silk Road to think about large-scale processes, about mobility, and about technological agency. Over the course of research into medieval life in the mountain valleys of Armenia, Kate Franklin has asked the question of how medieval global culture was rooted in local practice-- but more acutely, of how medieval people lived the large-scale in the everyday. In this talk, Kate explores the process of thinking through world-making in the Kasakh Valley, Armenia, sharing results and arguments from her forthcoming book *Everyday Cosmopolitanisms: Living the Silk Road in Medieval Armenia*, as well as reflections on the doing of global archaeology in the time of COVID-19.

Seminar Charlotte Hedenstierna-Jonson- Uppsala University & the Swedish History Museum

4 PM 8/4/2021 ZOOM seminar for link email archaeology.society@ucd.ie

WOMEN IN VIKING SOCIETY - roles, identities and perceptions

ABSTRACT

Most books about Vikings include a chapter on the women of the time. Often described as capable, and with a certain degree of self-determination and freedom, yet, the account of women is limited and given the corresponding space as a chapter on, for example, raids, trade and religion. While men are generally defined by their actions, women are often treated as an unspecified group whose actions take place within,

rather than being a formative part of, society. Nevertheless, the archaeological material clearly shows that women were an active part in most contexts in the Viking Age. We can be sure that women performed a number of different tasks, all of which were important to everyday life. But no matter what they did or what roles they could hold or were restricted to, women must be included in the general narrative. It is not about trying to force women into roles and identities that are generally perceived as male, but rather to acknowledge that women in their respective activities and functions also contributed to creating Viking society. Based on a few examples, this presentation reflects on what the archaeological material can tell us about the roles of women, their identities and our perceptions of women in Viking society.