

Institute of Continuing Education

Treasures of the Iron Age in the British Museum

Start date 24 February 2018 End date 24 February 2018

Venue Madingley Hall

Madingley Cambridge

Tutor Dr Gilly Carr Course code 1718NDX011

Director of Programmes Emma Jennings

For further information on this course, please contact

Public Programme Coordinator, Clare Kerr clare.kerr@ice.cam.ac.uk or 01223 746237

To book See: www.ice.cam.ac.uk or telephone 01223 746262

Tutor biography

Dr Gilly Carr is the Academic Director and Senior Lecturer in Archaeology at the University of Cambridge's Institute of Continuing Education. She is also a Fellow and Director of Studies in Archaeology of St Catharine's College, and a Member of the McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research. Gilly completed her MPhil and PhD at St John's College, Cambridge, in Iron Age Archaeology.

In addition to teaching Iron Age Archaeology, Gilly's research specialisms include Conflict Archaeology, POW Archaeology, Post-Conflict Heritage Studies and Holocaust Studies. She has been carrying out fieldwork in the Channel Islands for the last decade and is the author of over 50 publications. Recent works include Legacies of Occupation: Heritage, Memory and Archaeology in the Channel Islands (Springer 2012); Protest, Defiance and Resistance in the Channel Islands: German occupation 1940-1945 (with Paul Sanders and Louise Willmot, Bloomsbury Academic 2014); and Heritage and Memory of War: Responses from Small Islands (with Keir Reeves; Routledge 2015). She is currently writing a new monograph entitled A Legitimate Heritage? Nazi Persecution in the Channel Islands (Bloomsbury Academic).

Course programme

09:30	Terrace bar open for pre-course tea/coffee
10:00 – 11:15	Lindow Man and bog bodies
11:15	Coffee
11:45 – 13:00	The Snettisham Torques and hoards
13:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:15	The Deal Warrior's head-dress and 'Celtic' Art
15:15	Tea
15:30 – 16:45	The Aylesford Bucket and the Later Iron Age
16:45	Day-school ends

Course syllabus

Aims:

- To familiarise students with some key objects in the British Museum and, through this, to introduce them to the Iron Age
- To enable students to identify some of the key questions that archaeologists ask of Iron Age material culture

Content:

This day school begins with the tutor's favourite Iron Age person, Lindow Man, who provides an ideal starting point to our day because he enables students to literally come face to face with the Iron Age. He opens up so many questions about Iron Age life, attitudes towards and treatment of the dead, and ritual practices, not to mention the ethics of displaying dead bodies. Through discussion of bog bodies, we will make a little foray across to other museums in Europe which house such people.

From here we will move to the golden treasures of the glorious Snettisham torques, using them as a springboard to discussing hoards in general, the recently discovered Jersey coin hoard, conspicuous consumption, and the Treasure Trove act.

In our third lecture we will visit the dead a second time – the so-called 'Deal Warrior' – or to be more precise, his head-dress, and why he isn't all he seems to be. What is the significance of the 'Celtic' art on his sword and head-dress, and how might we begin to understand this form of art?

Finally, in anticipation of the coming of the Romans, we focus on the Aylesford Bucket, its design of dancing horses, and its role as a vessel for cremated bones. To what extent did it mirror graves goods on the other side of the channel, and what does this connote? A body, a bucket, a head-dress and a torque: rich treasures indeed!

Presentation of the course:

The course will be taught through interactive seminar-style lectures; class discussion and questions will be encouraged.

As a result of the course, within the constraints of the time available, students should be able to:

- Have a basic understanding of the British Iron Age
- Have a familiarity with some key treasures in the British Museum's Iron Age gallery
- Identify the various elements of objects that are used by archaeologists to make their interpretations
- Make preliminary interpretations of similar objects in other museums

Reading and resources list

Listed below are a number of texts that might be of interest for future reference, but do not need to be bought (or consulted) for the course.

Brothwell, D. (1986). The bog man and the archaeology of people. British Museum Publications.

Creighton, J., 2000. Coins and power in late Iron Age Britain. Cambridge University Press.

Cunliffe, B., 2014. *Iron Age Britain*. Pavilion Books.

Garrow, D. Gosden, C., Hill, J.D. 2008. Rethinking Celtic Art. Oxbow Books.

Garrow, D. and Gosden, C. 2012. *Technologies of Enchantment? Exploring Celtic Art: 400BC to AD 100.* OUP.

James, S. 1999. The Atlantic Celts: Ancient People or Modern Invention? Ancient Celts and Modern Myths. Madison: London and University of Wisconsin Press.

James, S. and Rigby, V. 1997. Britain and the Celtic Iron Age, London: British Museum.

Pollard, J., 2008. Prehistoric Britain. Blackwell.

Stead, I.M., 1996. *Celtic art: in Britain before the Roman conquest*. Harvard University Press.

Stead, I.M., Bourke, J.B. and Brothwell, D., 1986. *Lindow Man: the body in the bog*. British Museum Publications.

Website addresses

http://www.britishmuseum.org/

Additional information

Venue

Details of how to find Madingley Hall can be found on our website: http://www.ice.cam.ac.uk/who-we-are/how-to-find-the-institute

Refreshments

Tea and coffee and lunch will be provided. If you have any specific dietary requirements or allergies and have not already advised us, please inform our Admissions Team on ice.admissions@ice.cam.ac.uk or +44 (0)1223 746262.

Note Students of the Institute of Continuing Education are entitled to 20% discount on books published by Cambridge University Press (CUP) which are purchased at the Press bookshop, 1 Trinity Street, Cambridge (Mon-Sat 9am – 5:30pm, Sun 11am – 5pm). A letter or email confirming acceptance on to a current Institute course should be taken as evidence of enrolment.

Information correct as of: 12 April 2017