

April 2020: Membership News

Dear Members,

I hope you are all keeping safe and well.

SMA is aware that in light of the COVID-19 situation that members may not have been able to receive the electronic version of this news update because they are away from their usual place of work or because they have been furloughed. To enable as many people as possible to continue to receive this news we have decided to post this information on both our website and Facebook pages as well as transmit to membership email addresses

To begin with I am sure many of you will have seen the sad news about Creswell Crags - I know many museums will be facing this in the coming months, and I will aim to publicise as many as we can. Please share and help if you can.

[Creswell Crags News & Appeal](#)

Some SMA News and Updates for you -

* **Request for help** - The South West Implement Petrology Group are currently working on a Historic England funded project to create a new microsite and online catalogue of stone axes and other stone tools, and are looking for images. Please see below for more information.

* **Fully Funded Master's Studentship** on the archaeology of the A14C2H - 'From July 2020 we will be welcoming two Archaeology Master's Students to MOLA Headland Infrastructure as part of an exciting MA Studentship opportunity, funded by Highways England and delivered in conjunction with the University of Reading.' - Deadline 1st May

[MOLA Headland MAs](#)

* **Working from home advice** - UCL have put together a useful website with advice etc. for how to work at home effectively, safely and with a strong focus on self-care.

[UCL 'Remote, not distant'](#)

* **Oxford Archaeology Digital Library:** OA digital library has over 5500 items of grey literature, digital copies of monographs and supporting primary archives - you can find it all here

[OA Library](#)

* **Blog from the British Museum:** 'How to explore the British Museum from home'

[Explore the BM](#)

* **Free online Course - Antiquities Trafficking and Art Crime** (from Future Learn). 'From fakes and fraud, to thefts and trafficking, art crime has turned archaeological sites in Iraq and Syria into “lunar landscapes”, decapitated Buddha sculptures in Cambodia and left empty frames on museum walls. So how do we protect our heritage from theft, illegal sale, and destruction? Delve into the world of art crime and antiquities trafficking with this online course, and get answers from those fighting to save the world’s precious artefacts.'

[Antiquities Trafficking & Art Crime](#)

If you have anything you'd like to share please do send it one.

Nick Booth
SMA Membership Officer

The South West Implement Petrology Group are currently working on a Historic England funded project to create a new microsite and online catalogue of stone axes and other stone tools.

We're looking for some good images to illustrate how stone axes were made and what stone axes were used for? If anyone has any images that are freely available for use, we'd be very interested to hear from you. Please email amal.khreisheh@swheritage.org.uk.

For how stone axes were made, we're looking for images which illustrate the following steps:

1. Quarrying stone / choosing beach pebble;
2. Roughly shaping with stone hammer;
3. Finely shaping with smaller stone hammer;
4. Grinding & polishing blade;
5. (For fancy axes) polishing all over.

For what stone axes were used for, we're looking for images which illustrate the following functions:

1. Clearing land - chopping down trees;
2. Construction - shaping wood;
3. Showing off - owning a fancy axe.

Any help gratefully received!