

FREE family festival

Taking Part in the Past

Saturday 21 April 10.00 - 4.00, Dingwall Academy

ARCH is greeting spring with a bit of a bounce with our free family festival celebrating Highland community archaeology. There's something for everyone from our exciting mix of contributors, who are offering talks, workshops, activities and exhibitions about their work. And as icing on the cake - there'll be some delicious homebaking in the canteen.

Programme

09.30 - Doors open - teas and coffees

Talks

10.00 -10.15 **Welcome** by Cait McCullagh, Chair of ARCH

10.15 - 10.45 **Gone - Changed - New : remembering your community** A look at some of ARCH's community heritage work by project officer, Susan Kruse

10.45 - 11.15 **Life and Death in Assynt's Past** Gordon Sleight, from Historic Assynt presents a project which involved the local community and visitors in excavation of three sites - a Neolithic Chambered Cairn, an Iron Age Broch and a Pre-clearance Longhouse

11.45 - 12.15 **A steep learning curve in Gairloch . . . continuing!** Anne MacInnes and Dorothy Malone talk about Gairloch Archaeological Heritage

Trust's broad ranging community research, linking archives and on the ground remains. (Gairloch surveyors are shown in the top photograph)

12.15 - 12.45 **Learning by doing : experimental archaeology** John Barber of AOC Archaeology describes some of the challenges and rewards in trying to understand past techniques. Find out more about the Broch that wouldn't fall down! (See bottom photograph)



Workshops

10.00, 10.30, 11.00, 12.00 **Highland stories** Artist and storyteller, Lizzie McDougall will be using her Highland Story panels to share the magic of many an old Highland folk tale.

10.15 - 11.15 **So you want to be an archaeologist?** Archaeologists Lynne and Lachlan McKeeggie will be giving tips on how to become an archaeologist and some the rewards and challenges that lie ahead one you've become one.

11.45 - 12.45 **Erik the Dead : a hands-on look at Viking burials** Archaeologists Lynne and Lachlan McKeeggie will be leading this workshop on Viking burial. What was important to the Vikings, and how we might recognise one? (numbers limited - booking recommended)

12.45 - 1.45 **Lunchtime tour of Dingwall's built heritage** With local historians David and Sandra MacDonald

. . . the programme continues overleaf . . .



More Taking Part . . .

1.45- 2.30 **HER: what it is and how to use it** ARCH project officer, Cathy MacIver, will be showing some of the exciting information you can find on this database of all known Highland heritage, and giving tips on how to make the best use of it. (numbers limited - booking recommended)

1.45 - 2.30 **Fundraising for community archaeology** Cara Jones of Archaeology Scotland will be giving lots of handy fundraising tips.

1.45 - 2.30 **Rubbish Game** We all know what sort of items become rubbish today - but what do they tell us about how we live - and how might we use the same methods to understand the past? Find out with Susan Kruse and the Young Archaeologists Club

2.00-3.00 **Do you have what it takes to be a Viking?** (For ages 7 to 11) Join with Thorstein the Red and his wife Thurid on a Viking adventure: boat race, weapon training, rune writing, spinning, stories & more. Costumes provided - and weapons for the brave! (numbers limited - booking recommended)

2.30 - 3.25 **Looking at the world from the sky** ARCH project officer, Cathy MacIver will be showing some fascinating GIS and aerial photo images and describing how to use them to find out more about what the landscape reveals about our heritage. (numbers limited - booking recommended)

2.30 - 3.30 **Creating the Killearnan community heritage exhibition** Alasdair Cameron and Sandra Bain will be talking about their community's experience of researching and putting together this exhibition, and sharing tips for other places that might like to follow in their footsteps.



2.30 - 3.30 **Mesolithic burial rites** Susan Kruse and the Young Archaeologists Club will be leading this workshop, which considers how there might be burials that leave no trace. Primarily aimed at age 8 - 15, but all welcome.

3.30 - 4.00 **The future of Highland community archaeology** A panel discussion led by Allan Kilpatrick from the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Scotland.

Also during the day there will be:

Highland and national heritage stalls Local museums, community groups, organisations and projects will all feature their work.

Mesolithic shelter building Join John Wombell and George Grant of the Inverness Young Archaeologists Club to create a Mesolithic shelter outside.

Going Potty Bronze Age pot making with The Highland Council ranger, Corinne MacCallum

Come dine with me through time Academy students show their historic food themed films and offer samples to taste.

Tour of Dingwall Library local history collection (12.30-1.30)

Basketry, Spinning and weaving demonstrations - and for sale

Bread, soaps, woodworking, jewelry, and other crafts

Heritage book stalls

Refreshments all day: Tea, coffee juice and lots of home baking - support ARCH and enjoy some good food too!

**Childcare available:
must be booked by 4 April**

To find out more, reserve a place or book child care contact us by email at info@archhighland.org.uk or phone 01349 868230

ARCH Courses

All courses are low cost (£2.50 per session) and free to anyone on low income. Everyone is welcome on any course - no previous experience necessary. Refreshments are provided.

Help with childcare is available. To find out more or to book a place, please get in touch with us - see contacts below.

Surveying the Past : Strathpeffer and Tain

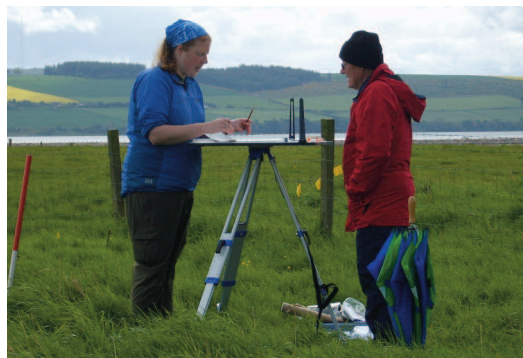
The *Pathways into the Past* courses based in Strathpeffer and Tain which look at the possible ancient routeway running from Tarradale on the Black Isle to Tain are moving on to learning all about practical surveying.

Using a mix of walkover survey days and indoor training sessions, course leader Cathy MacIver will be working with class members to help them to recognise evidence of past land use and settlement, and then how to use surveying skills to study features in more detail.

The final section of each course, *Reporting on your Past* will be looking at how to put together a display of some of what has been learnt on the course, and this will be put on show in each community.

To find out more, contact Cathy via the details below, or come along and try a session out.

Course details are:



Strathpeffer

Surveying your Heritage

Sat 24 March : *Walkover Survey* 10.00 - 4.00 Meet Strathpeffer Community Centre, bring a packed lunch.

Tues 27 March : *Visit to Tain Museum*. Meet 6.30 pm Strathpeffer Community Centre - booking essential.

Reporting on Your Past : Tuesdays 17 April - 15 May at 6.30pm in the Strathpeffer Community Centre

Tain

Surveying your Heritage : 19 April - 3 May

Thursdays - 19, 26 April and 3 May : *Indoor sessions*. Meet 6.30 pm Tain Royal Academy Community Centre

Sat 28 April: *Walkover Survey* 10.00 - 4.00. Meet Tain Royal Academy Community Centre, bring a packed lunch

Reporting on Your Past : Thursdays 10 May - 7 June at 6.30pm in Room 22 of the Tain Royal Academy Community Centre

Two Sutherland lectures

Monday 30 April

Carn Liath Broch : what do the artefacts tell us?

Local archaeologist Lynn Fraser looks at the insights the artefact assemblage from Carn Liath broch at Golspie can reveal about daily life, ritual, and specialised craftwork. Lynn explores cultural contacts within Atlantic Scotland and beyond, and the social status of the inhabitants.



Monday 28 May

Strathcarnraig (Sutherland): before and after Clearance

Historian David Alston describes the well-preserved remains of settlements in Strathcarnraig on the road from Strath Fleet to Bonar Bridge, linking them to the detailed surveys of the 1770s before the area was cleared.

Both lectures are at 7.30 pm in the Dingwall Community Centre (doors open at 7.00 pm), and will be followed by teas and coffees. A £3 donation is suggested.

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take a look at our website

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