

# Programme of lectures 2025-26

- October 9th "Discoveries at a recent site in Wallingford"  
*Dr. Ceri Falys, (University of Reading, Osteologist in the Department of Archaeology.)*
- November 6<sup>th</sup> 2025 "The Portable Antiquities scheme; An update for West Oxfordshire."  
*Ed Caswell, (Oxfordshire PAS Officer)*
- December 4<sup>th</sup> 2025 Review of SOAG archaeology and Christmas Social
- February 5<sup>th</sup> 2026 "What chemistry can tell us about the human past"  
*Dr. Amy Styring, (University of Oxford)*  
(Online via Zoom)
- March 5<sup>th</sup> 2026 "The Long Man of Wilmington" a very enigmatic chalk figure  
*Professor Martin Bell (The University of Reading)*
- April 2nd 2026 AGM, followed by:  
"Archaeological discoveries at the Brookside Meadows site, Grove"  
*Francesca Giarelli (Red River Archaeology)*

Lectures are held in **Sonning Common Village Hall**, Wood Lane, Sonning Common RG4 9SL, with occasional meetings via Zoom.  
Lectures start at 7:30pm & are free to all, although donations are appreciated. (consult [www.soagarch.org.uk](http://www.soagarch.org.uk) for updates).

## Events & visits 2025-26

Visits to interesting places and events are organised during the year.

### PATRON

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### Lectures and Events

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## Annual subscriptions 2025

(Subscriptions are due from 1 January each year, but are ½ price after 1 September)

Individual (IND): £15.00

Joint (JNT): £22.00

Family One Adult (FOA): £18.00

Family Two Adults (FTA): £25.00

Student (STU): £8.00 Junior (JUN): £8.00



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## South Oxfordshire Archaeological Group



## Information & Membership 2025

## Lectures & Events 2025-26

[www.soagarch.org.uk](http://www.soagarch.org.uk)

# SOAG Membership Application Form

I/we would like to join SOAG as:

☐ IND ☐ JNT ☐ FOA ☐ FTA ☐ STU ☐ JUN (please tick one)

Title(s) Name(s) (BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE)


Address

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Your personal data will be held on computer & managed in accordance with the GDPR as detailed in SOAG's Privacy Statement ([www.soagarch.org.uk/dataprotection.html](http://www.soagarch.org.uk/dataprotection.html)) and your rights therein including those of access, rectification & erasure. It will be used for Membership administration, SOAG newsletter circulation, and notification of SOAG fieldwork and relevant local archaeological events. It will not be disclosed to third parties.

## Gift Aid can make your subscription worth more

If you are a UK taxpayer, you can increase the value of your SOAG subscription at no extra cost to you. All you have to do is indicate your permission by ticking the declaration box below.

☐ I confirm I/we have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for this & each future tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I/we donate to will reclaim on my/our gifts for that tax year. I/we understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I/we understand the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I/we give. I/we have read the full details about Gift Aid in the membership section of the SOAG website.

Please notify SOAG if you want to change this declaration, change your name or address, or no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains tax.

Signed

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Date

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I enclose a cheque made out to "SOAG" for £

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Please detach & send your completed form with your subscription to the SOAG Membership Secretary: Longwater, Longwater Lane, Finchampstead, Wokingham RG40 4NR (or email [membership@soagarch.org.uk](mailto:membership@soagarch.org.uk) for bank transfer details).

## About SOAG ...

SOAG is one of the most active independent amateur archaeology societies in Oxfordshire. It was established in 1969 and currently has about 140 members. Its aims are to promote a practical interest in archaeology and allied disciplines. We work frequently in collaboration with other community organisations who have an active interest in their local heritage. We have productive relations with several commercial archaeology companies, local universities, and the regional National Trust Archaeologist; and we have a good relationship with the Finds Liaison Officer for the national Portable Antiquities Scheme. We pride ourselves on our high standards: all our project plans are agreed with the Oxfordshire County Archaeologist. SOAG is affiliated to the Council for British Archaeology South Midlands Group.

**Fieldwork:** we provide opportunities for members to take part in archaeological excavations, surveys and "geophysics", field-walking and post-excavation work.

**Lectures and visits:** we hold monthly meetings from October to April. Lectures by professional speakers & members are given on a wide range of topics in an informal atmosphere. Field trips & visits are made to places of interest, sometimes sites not open to the public.

**Publications:** SOAG publishes a periodic journal, *SOAG Bulletin*: a regular newsletter for members, *SOAG Messenger*, and our website ([www.soagarch.org.uk](http://www.soagarch.org.uk)) provides public details of our current projects, events, contact details, and access to the archive of past *SOAG Bulletins* and (for members only) *SOAG Messengers*.



## How can I get involved?

If you are interested in any of SOAG's activities, why not become a member? You may first come to a meeting or experience a day's digging, or join now by filling in the form in this leaflet.

Experts & complete beginners of all ages are warmly welcomed. Informal instruction in basic field archaeology is provided.



Magnetometry  
for all ages

## Current fieldwork projects

Our current major long-term project is the excavation of a Romano-British settlement at **Smokedown Farm** near Faringdon. Examples of ongoing collaborative projects at **Kelmscott Manor**, **Chinnor Community Orchard**, **Simms Farm** (near Bicester), and **Greys Court**.

Recently-completed significant projects have been the excavation of a Roman Villa at **Gatehampton** near Goring-on-Thames, a Romano-British temple site at **High Wood** near Henley-on-Thames, and the multi-period study of The Grange at **Wyfold**. We also have an ongoing mainly desk-based programme studying the **Landscape Archaeology** of Oxfordshire. Members of SOAG are frequently also given the opportunity of participating in projects run by neighbouring archaeology organisations.

Full details of fieldwork, lectures and other events are published in *SOAG Messenger* & on our website: [www.soagarch.org.uk](http://www.soagarch.org.uk).