



FLINT FESTIVAL

BENEATH THE SURFACE



GREENWELL'S PIT

SITE OF LOST PUDDING STONE

Verity Birt & Tom Sewell

Oliver Payne

PIT 1

VISITOR CENTRE

Info, First Aid, Merch

PIT 15

Craft Village

Talks Tent

CAR PARK



English Heritage

GRIME'S GRAVES FLINT FESTIVAL IS BACK!

Join us and Time Team's legendary Phil Harding this June 15th & 16th for a weekend of prehistoric fun in collaboration with Stone Club! Two jam-packed days of Prehistoric Workshops, Demos, Talks, Storytellers, Tours, and much much more!

This year, to celebrate the reopening of Grime's Graves, we have an even bigger line up of incredible activities. Try your hand at Stone Age Crafts, with Memma the Cavewoman and her team of prehistoric experts in the craft village; pull up a picnic blanket and settle into the talks tent for a line-up of Arts & Archaeology talks and discussions hosted by Stone Club Co-Founder Matthew Shaw (don't miss Phil Harding's captivating stories about the start of his love affair with flint here in the 70's). Or get out and explore the landscape with our new family trail, where you may stumble upon our resident storyteller, 'The Yarnsmith of Norwich,' who will be spinning tales all weekend out in the hollows. Join a field trip with with one of our experts or tag along with Andy Burnham from Megalithic Portal on their quest to find the long lost Puddlingstone. All of this before you've even descended into the mines to see our new audio-visual projections!

With brand new Landscape Trails, exhibition space, and a new Audio Visual Pit experience, Come and explore this Neolithic Flint Mine like it's never been seen before!

This project had been made possible by funding from The National Lottery Heritage Fund, thanks to National Lottery players.



SATURDAY

TALKS TENT

- 11:30 Stone Club: *Introduction*
12:00 James Canton: *Grounded: A Journey into the Landscapes of Our Ancestors*
1:00 2Steps 4Words Acoustic Set
2:00 Val Thomas: *Of Chalk and Flint — Magical connections in Ancient Norfolk Landscapes*
2:30 Mary-Ann Ochota: *Journeys of Discovery — Become a Landscape Detective*
4:00 David Smith: *Building with Flint*
5:00 Phil Harding: *In Conversation with Matthew Shaw*

IN THE LANDSCAPE

- TBA Oliver Payne: *Stones* performance
3.30 2Steps 4Words Acoustic Set
6:00 Val Thomas: *Blessings*
6:30 Verity Birt & Tom Sewell: *Earth Return*

SUNDAY

TALKS TENT

- 12.00 Andy Burnham: *Discovering (hidden) Prehistoric sites with the Megalithic Portal* (Followed by a field trip to find the long lost Grime's Graves Puddingstone)
1.00 Simon Kaner: *Twinning Grimes Graves and Japan: a world first*
2.00 Objects of the Neolithic
3.00 2steps 4words Acoustic Set

ALL WEEKEND

Ancient House Museum's Teenage History Club will be exhibiting their new experimental Film & Sound works across the site.

Memma The Cavewoman: *Flint Knapping & Ancient Crafts*

Megalithic Portal will be leading daily quests to find the long lost Pudding Stone.

ANCIENT CRAFTS VILLAGE

FREE WORKSHOPS AND DEMOS

Flint Knapping, Basketry, Cordage & Textiles, Flint Axes, Neolithic Art, Food & Butchery



Stone Club aims to bring new perspectives to prehistory in a collaborative and inclusive way.

And of course don't forget the rules of Stone Club: First rule of Stone Club is tell everyone about Stone Club, Second rule of Stone Club is Stone Club is for everyone, Third rule of Stone Club is Pack a mac & Pack a snack, Fourth rule of Stone Club is Rules are for breaking.

STONE CLUB Founded by artists Lally MacBeth & Matthew Shaw, Stone Club was set up as a place for stone enthusiasts to congregate, to muse and most importantly to stomp to stones. Stone Club believes the journey is as important as the destination and encourages people to pause and think about place in new ways; connecting ancient sites through community and conversation. www.stoneclub.rocks

PHIL HARDING of Time Team fame, as a young man Phil excavated at Grimes Graves and discovered his love for all things flint and stone. He may 'bash a stone' at the festival as he tells tales of yore of past archaeological glories - "I left a lot of my heart at Grimes, and a good chunk of my liver too...."

JAMES CANTON author of *Grounded: A Journey into the Landscapes of our Ancestors*, *Waterstones Best Book of 2023: Nature & Travel*, will explore the close connection our ancestors had with the landscapes they lived in. Inspired by the beauty of East Anglia and seeking that lost connection, James Canton will take us on a journey across ancient England: from stone monuments to sacred groves, places of pilgrimage and sites of religious worship..

MARY-ANN OCHOTA is a broadcaster, author, National Trails Ambassador and explorer of Britain's ancient secrets in her books *Secret Britain: Unearthing our Mysterious Past* (2020) and *Hidden Histories: A Spotter's Guide to the British Landscape* (2018). Come with her as we journey along lost routes and tangled webs of connections across the landscape, following in the footsteps of our ancient ancestors.

DR VERITY BIRT will be bringing a brand new site specific performance art work to Grimes Graves in collaboration with artist **TOM SEWELL** as part of Saturday evening's closing ceremony. Verity is a contemporary artist whose practice takes in writing, performance and sound. Rooted in research and collaborative in nature, they explore how we connect to each other, the land and the more-than-human world. www.veritybirt.co.uk www.tomsewell.co.uk

VAL THOMAS author *Of Chalk and Flint: A Way of Norfolk Magic*, celebrates the county of Norfolk and its tradition of magic and witchcraft. The spiritual energy which informs and powers this magic wells up from the land itself and from the Chalk and Flint which have shaped the landscape, its flora, its fauna, its culture and its history. Val will lead us in a blessing of the site, invoking the spirit of place via her Charms to the Lord and Lady of Chalk and Flint.

DAVID SMITH is an award-winning flint worker and architect, author of *Building With Flint: A Practical Guide* to building with flint in architecture and design; and an artist, whose material explorations have fused together flint and chalk via the heat of the furnace to make one-of-a-kind glassware. David will be talking at Flint Festival about his expansive work with flint, alongside leading a guided field trip around the local town of Thetford on Friday the 14th June from 6.30pm.

OLIVER PAYNE is an artist, sound designer, musician, and founder of Eastern Ear and the Yarmonics Festival. His work focuses on discovering the unheard and unusual through unique sound experiences and kinetic sculptures, improvised performance and sound-based mark making. For the Festival, he will be remaking Christian Wolf's iconic Stones using objects from the site to take us on a sonic journey! (Participants welcome, no experience necessary). www.easternear.co.uk www.yarmonics.com

SIMON KANER Executive Director and Head of Centre for Archaeology and Heritage at the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts & Cultures, places Norfolk's prehistoric archaeology in an international context and explores the power of archaeology to contribute to health and well-being. This work has been in connection with the first 'archaeological site twinning' between Grimes Grave and the Neolithic Hoshikuso Obsidian Mines near Nagawa, Japan. www.sainsbury-institute.org

ANCIENT HOUSE MUSEUM'S TEENAGE HISTORY CLUB will bring their unique perspectives to Grime's Graves through brand new experimental film and sound works shown here as 'works in progress'. These film and sound pieces have been made whilst working with Norwich based Sound Artist Oliver Payne and Film Maker Lewis Wickwar as part of Grime's Graves Digging Deeper project. These new collaborations were made possible thanks to funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Alongside screening their new films, you can find members of the Teenage History Club out in the landscape on Saturday demonstrating obsidian knapping at Grimes Graves for the first time. Since 2016 the group have been part of a cultural exchange programme in honour of the site's twinning with the Neolithic obsidian mine Hoshikuso Obsidian Mines near Nagawa, Japan.

To learn more about this programme make sure to check out their stall, and don't miss Simon Kaner on Sunday at 1pm.

MEGALITHIC PORTAL Andy Burnham will lead walks to search for the famous 'Puddingstone of Grime's Graves'. Is there a lost Neolithic trade route that took high quality flint from the mines at Grimes Graves to Stonehenge? In 1952, Dr. Ernest Ruge certainly thought so and spent many years researching what he called a "Lost Highway" with puddingstone boulders marking the way...what will we discover? www.megalithic.co.uk

MEMMA THE CAVEWOMAN aka Sarah Day is a Bushcraft instructor, experimental archaeologist and ancient technologist. She will be bringing a team of prehistoric crafters and artisans to the festival for hands-on experiences of prehistoric tech and craft. Make sure to check them out in the Ancient Craft Village. www.prehistoricexperiences.com

DAVE TONG: THE YARNSMITH OF NORWICH our resident storyteller will be spinning tales all weekend out in the hollows — explore the site to discover the magic!