

MEGALITH



Stonehenge and Avebury World Heritage Site Newsletter JULY 2013



Stonehenge
and
Avebury
working
together

Welcome

Welcome to this second edition of Megalith (the first was produced for Stonehenge in June 2012). Megalith provides a snapshot of the work of the World Heritage Site (WHS) and its partners over the past year. This edition is a joint newsletter for both parts of the Stonehenge and Avebury World Heritage Site.

We hope you enjoy this edition of Megalith. Please contact us if you want to know more.

The first Megalith focused mainly on Stonehenge. This second edition reflects recent changes in the management of the WHS that aim to increase coordination between the two halves of the Site. You can find out more about projects in both parts of the WHS and how Stonehenge and Avebury are working more closely together while retaining their individual character in this newsletter.



Photos © English Heritage

Stonehenge and Avebury are listed together as one World Heritage Site by UNESCO. Each half encompasses a landscape of around 25 square kilometres with a wealth of outstanding prehistoric monuments and sites.

As a single WHS the reason for their inscription is the same but there are some key differences. The most notable is probably the presence of people. While in the Avebury half of the WHS there are several thriving communities – even within the stone circle itself – at Stonehenge the majority of people live on the edge of the WHS in Amesbury, Durrington and the Woodford Valley.

Although joint projects and informal coordination has taken place on a regular basis between Stonehenge and Avebury there has been no formal link between the two halves of the WHS.

Following a recent review, changes have been agreed that will establish a coordinating group – the Stonehenge and Avebury WHS Partnership Panel – which will consist of senior representatives of Wiltshire Council, English Heritage and the National Trust as well as the chairs of the two local Steering Committees and a representative of the WHS research group. This group will coordinate actions affecting both parts of the Site, look at ways of resourcing the objectives of the WHS Management Plan and act as champions within their own organisations.

The Stonehenge and Avebury Steering Committees remain to ensure meaningful local input in decision making and management of the WHS. A new independent chair of the Partnership Panel will be recruited to act as a champion for the whole WHS to help raise its profile and gain additional support.

Despite increased coordination in the management of the two halves of the WHS, the experience for visitors and residents on the ground will remain very different: part of the enormous charm of the WHS. If you haven't been to either Stonehenge or Avebury then we recommend that you go out and explore this summer.

Sarah Simmonds
Avebury WHS Officer

Beth Thomas
Stonehenge WHS Coordinator

If you want to know more please feel free to contact us.

The Stonehenge & Avebury WHS Management Plan

The structure of the joint Stonehenge and Avebury Management Plan will reflect common themes, issues and objectives across the WHS whilst allowing local differences to be highlighted and addressed.

In the last edition of Megalith we reported that Avebury was reviewing its Management Plan which was last revised in 2005. The Avebury WHS Officer has undertaken a good deal of consultation with residents, partners and colleagues working and living in the WHS and the wider public.



Sarah Simmonds and Beth Thomas at work on the revised Management Plan

Work on the update of the Avebury WHS Management Plan was due to be complete at the end of this year however a decision was taken this spring by both the Avebury and Stonehenge Steering Committees to produce a joint Management Plan for the whole WHS. This joint Management Plan will mean a more coherent approach to managing the whole World Heritage Site which reflects UNESCO advice on establishing greater coordination across the different elements of a single WHS. It also represents the best use of resources in a challenging economic climate.

Progress on the development of the Avebury element of the Plan will continue based on the outcomes of the recent review process. The timetable for production of the final joint Plan will be extended to allow for completion of the review process at Stonehenge. Work is due to begin this autumn on reviewing the Stonehenge Management Plan (2009). Visit our website to find out how you can get involved in the consultation for the Stonehenge element of the Plan. It is hoped that work on the joint Management Plan will be complete by the end of 2014.

Community Workshops at the Neolithic Houses, Old Sarum

Each Saturday in April 2013, whatever the weather, local folks gathered to have a go at some of the skills being used to trial the prototype Neolithic Houses at Old Sarum.

English Heritage initiated this archaeological experiment and plans to present these houses as part of the outdoor gallery at the new Stonehenge visitor centre. This trial, supported by Heritage Lottery Funding, included running open days for the public and community and education workshops to see not just how the houses might have been built but also how people might like to experience the houses when they are presented next year.

It was great to get the local community involved in something practical that everyone could do and to raise awareness about the visitor centre. 254 people booked on to the community workshops during April with many happy customers who thoroughly enjoyed meeting the Ancient Technology Centre staff and English Heritage volunteers who had been doing the build.

"We both learned a mountain of information and have a whole new perspective on our cultural timeline, Neolithic life and problem-solving! We also thought that all of your experts, volunteers and guides were amazing - it was very inspiring and we can't wait to watch the new phase unfold at Stonehenge."

(Family from Shrewton)

Many families came to the events but it equally appealed to individuals who wanted to have a go at some ancient crafts and skills too. If you would like to see more about the project do visit the blog:

<http://neolithichouses.wordpress.com/community-workshops/>

To be the first in the know about projects like this one and free opportunities for locals to get involved in heritage projects please contact me to find out about becoming a Community Ambassador. In exchange for your time in sharing our events with friends and family, we share a newsletter with you alerting you to these events and offer you preview opportunities.

Lisa Holmes
Stonehenge
Community Projects
Manager
Lisa.Holmes@english-heritage.org.uk



Photo © Lisa Holmes, English Heritage

Photo © Lisa Holmes, English Heritage



Background photo © James O Davies, English Heritage



Improvements to Major Alexander Hewetson's memorial, Fargo Wood

Hidden away at the side of the A344 at the edge of the Fargo Wood is a little known memorial to Major Alexander Hewetson of 66th Battery Royal Artillery who died on 17 July 1913, an early casualty during the first days of army flying.

Beth Thomas worked with the assistance of the 'Wings over Stonehenge' National Trust volunteer group, officers from Wiltshire Council and Larkhill's Deputy Garrison Commander, Lieutenant Colonel John Le Feuvre to work up a simple and cost effective plan to tidy up the memorial in time for the centenary of his death in July. Local stonemason, Thomas Beattie removed the graffiti and cleaned up the slate inscription and the monument was given a more respectful setting with an edging of gravel with the help of several Larkhill based trainee soldiers and the Directing Staff lead, Sergeant Richard Kovolgyi.

This June, six Phase Two soldiers under training from 24 (Irish) Battery of 14th Regiment Royal Artillery at the Royal School of Artillery, Larkhill volunteered to assist in a project to tidy up the memorial in time for the centenary of Major Hewetson's death in July.



Photo: Volunteers from Phase Two soldiers under training of the 24 (Irish) Battery of 14th Regiment Royal Artillery from Royal Artillery School, Larkhill pictured after improvements to the Major Alexander Hewetson memorial at Fargo Wood.

The memorial to Major Hewetson will be very close to the proposed drop off point for the transport system between the new visitor centre and Stonehenge. It is hoped that many more people will see the monument to Major Hewetson and be inspired to find out more about him and the early history of flying here at Stonehenge.

New developments at Salisbury Museum

English Heritage, Wiltshire Museum and Salisbury Museum are all working in partnership to present the story of Stonehenge. Not only will there be a new visitor centre at Stonehenge but both museums are improving their archaeology galleries to help tell the story of the people and monuments of the Stonehenge World Heritage Site.

Salisbury Museum is preparing for exciting change. Last year we secured a £1.8 million Heritage Lottery Fund grant to update our archaeology galleries allowing us to show our superb collection to its full potential.

Our new gallery will tell the story of Salisbury and the surrounding area from prehistoric times to the Norman Conquest. The museum's collections include some of the finest archaeological discoveries outside a national museum in Britain, including artefacts from the Stonehenge World Heritage Site, the Pitt-Rivers Wessex Collection and the Amesbury Archer.

The museum has appointed Metaphor, the master planners, architects and exhibition designers to complete our plans. Our current archaeology displays have been carefully packed away with the help of over 40 volunteers and the galleries have been closed. Construction work will start in the autumn and the new gallery will open in Spring 2014. Meanwhile the rest of the museum remains open – in the autumn we will have a special exhibition focusing on creating the new gallery.

Below: David Andrews of Visit Wiltshire, Loraine Knowles, Stonehenge Project Director, David Dawson, Director of Wiltshire Museum and Adrian Green, Salisbury Museum at the new Stonehenge visitor centre site





Reconstructed Bronze Age house found at Bishops Canning Down Devizes

Telling the story of prehistoric Wiltshire

The Wiltshire Museum in Devizes is opening new prehistory galleries in the autumn.

The centrepiece of the stunning new displays are the objects buried with the Bush Barrow Chieftain almost 4,000 years ago.

He was buried close to Stonehenge with the objects that showed his power and authority – a gold lozenge, a ceremonial mace and a gold-decorated dagger.

These are just some of the rich Bronze Age objects that are on display for the first time in new high security showcases.

Gold ornaments, amber necklaces, ritual costume, polished stone axes and bronze daggers tell the story of the people who lived at the time when Stonehenge, Avebury and Marden henges were great ceremonial centres.

The displays feature models and full-size reconstructions that bring archaeology to life. There is lots for children to do, with trails and quizzes, a chance to build Stonehenge and Bronze Age clothes to try on.



Bronze Age artefacts on show at the Wiltshire Museum

Some of the important Bronze Age gold finds from the museum will be on loan for display at the new Stonehenge visitor centre. This is part of an integrated strategy to encourage visitors to Stonehenge to explore Wiltshire and to visit the museums in Devizes and Salisbury. These new displays have been developed with support from the Heritage Lottery Fund, English Heritage and the North Wessex Downs AONB.

Stonehenge and Avebury in social media

As we mentioned in the introduction we have been working much more closely together to establish our identity as one World Heritage Site. In particular we have been working with Design by Distraction on the development of a new website to represent the WHS. Previously you had to go to a number of websites to find out about the WHS. This website will provide a central focus for information on the World Heritage Site. It will also direct you to partner websites to find out how to visit both Stonehenge and Avebury and the work that they do in and around the World Heritage Site. We would welcome feedback on what you would like to see on the website. You can sign up for Megalith as an e-newsletter and keep up to date with what's been happening in the WHS electronically.



You can find us at

www.stonehengeandaveburywhs.org



You can also find us on Twitter – we are shy tweeters but you can find us at

[@StoneAveWHS](https://twitter.com/StoneAveWHS)

We aim to let you know what we are up to and highlight events and happenings taking place in and around Stonehenge and Avebury.



**VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT WEEK
AMESBURY LIBRARY**



St Mary's pupils with their homemade giant sarsen stone

Avenue to Learning

Avebury World Heritage Site provides a wonderful outdoor classroom for more than just students of archaeology. Members of the Avebury Archaeological and Historical Research Group, the World Heritage Site's (WHS) research body, came up with a way for young people to get out into the WHS landscape and engage with their local heritage while building up their skills in maths and science. Using geophysical survey results from the West Kennet Avenue and a range of surveying techniques, pupils from St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Swindon were able to plot the positions of buried sarsens on the ground.

The school created a reconstruction of one of the giant sarsen stones from wood, wire and paper and erected it over where the stone lies underground in the Avenue - a much more exciting alternative to plotting dots on graph paper in the classroom.

Feedback from the school underlines how valuable the Avenue to Learning Project is:

"The Avenue to Learning project offered children the chance to discover the key features and stories of their local landscape. Children applied literacy, mathematical, geographical and

historical skills in an archaeological context under the inspirational guidance of the country's prehistory experts. The impact on the school has been significant with prehistory and the study of landscape becoming a larger feature of the curriculum, with a focus on field work and practical discovery.

Children have been so excited by their experiences that they have insisted on leading their own families on guided tours of the World Heritage Site at Avebury."

Avebury and its surrounding landscape have been given World Heritage status from UNESCO for everyone's benefit. The opportunity to take part in the project is being extended to other schools and groups who are encouraged to use the WHS for outdoor learning across the whole curriculum.

**Colin Shell, Gillian Swanton
and Colm McCavera**



David Field, Mark Bowden and Nicky Smith from English Heritage share their surveying skills with pupils



Contributors to the AvtoL Project include:

Avebury & District Club
CBA Young Archaeologists'
Club, North Wiltshire Branch
Charles Rodwell,
landscape artist
English Heritage
F. Swanton & Sons, farmers
McDonald Institute for
Archaeological Research,
University of Cambridge
National Trust
Swindon Commercial
Services Ltd.
Family of the late Richard
Hues, farmers
Wiltshire Council
Young WANHS (Wiltshire
Archaeological and Natural
History Society) Club

Update from the Stonehenge landscape

It's been a busy year for the National Trust Rangers Team in the Stonehenge Landscape!

Much of the winter months were spent undertaking woodland improvement works in the southern block of Fargo Plantation. This work is in preparation for the changes to the visitor experience following the opening of the new visitor centre at Airmans Corner.

This work has included the removal of all coniferous trees and of trees on and around the barrows and other features within the plantation. The result is much better visibility of the prehistoric features in the landscape and between the barrow cemetery and other Neolithic and Bronze Age monuments. By allowing more light in, we have improved the aesthetics of the woodland, and improved the potential biodiversity.

In addition, numerous pedestrian gates and new paths have been installed so that visitors alighting at Fargo Plantation on the transport from the new centre to Stonehenge monument will be able to explore the landscape around Stonehenge which is rich in archaeological features.

If you want to keep up to date with what's happening in the Stonehenge Landscape why not follow Wiltshire Rangers on Twitter @WiltsRangersNT or Facebook (National Trust Stonehenge Landscape).

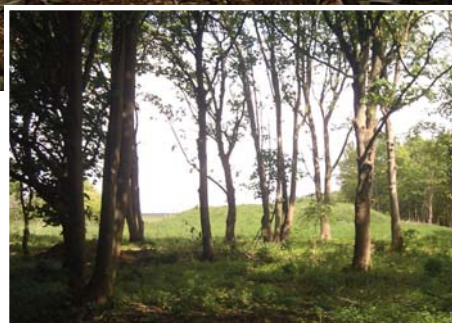


Forest management making access easier at Fargo Wood

Mike Dando

Head Ranger

Wiltshire Countryside sites & Stonehenge Landscape



Photos © National Trust

UNESCO Youth Summit: An Amazing Opportunity

Sheldon School, Chippenham was successful in a competition to produce a website for our local World Heritage Site - Avebury

The first prize was an amazing opportunity to attend the UNESCO Youth Summit in the Maritime Greenwich World Heritage Site, London.

A team of five of us set off by train with two teachers in tow. The aims of the conference were for youth delegates to gain knowledge and understanding about their World Heritage Sites, become champions for World Heritage, learn new skills especially in relation to new media and digital technologies and learn about careers in the heritage and the creative industries. Our timetable certainly gave us an opportunity to achieve all these.

For me the highlights were: exploring the World Heritage Site of Greenwich including the Royal Observatory and meeting other young people from around the world, particularly Shezara Francis, a student from the University of Greenwich. She and her team had created an App which we had the opportunity to use to explore Greenwich. The opportunity to create a group film about our heritage site was new and fun; our video

masterpieces were played at one of the Olympic venues during the London 2012 games. I also got a lot from the conference dinner; where we listened to speakers. I also had the opportunity to stand up and share our experiences of our World Heritage Site, Avebury, and the challenges of creating our website. A very enjoyable and educational visit - we all had a fabulous time. It was an amazing opportunity that will influence us for years to come. I absolutely recommended getting involved for all those interested in World Heritage, history and culture.

Josh Matthews

Sheldon School, Chippenham

*Standing on the Prime Meridian, Greenwich WHS
Front to back: Emma Langford, Annie Harris, Fenella Cooper, Josh Matthews, Monty Alvis*



Avebury World Heritage Site Traffic Strategy

Roads, traffic and parking are major challenges in the World Heritage Site. In many parts of the Site they have a direct negative impact on monuments and their settings. They can also detract from the visitor experience and the everyday life of residents.

Avebury Parish Council has recently produced a Community Traffic Plan which sets out the residents' concerns and suggested solutions. This locally-led community initiative will be very helpful in informing the Avebury WHS Traffic Strategy that will provide appropriate and sensitive solutions and designs. Continued liaison and consultation with WHS partners and residents will be an important element of the Strategy as it progresses.



Avebury High Street: Impacts of traffic and parking

Work has begun on the Avebury WHS Traffic Strategy. This Strategy will provide a holistic suite of responses to the road and traffic related issues and objectives identified as part of the WHS Management Plan review. These include reducing the dominance of roads and traffic in the WHS to protect and enhance its special qualities or outstanding universal value and allowing ease of movement for visitors and residents.

Wiltshire Council is leading on the strategy and their consultants Atkins will be undertaking the work. Funding has been provided by the Council and the North Wessex Downs AONB. The assistance of Avebury Parish Council and the National Trust in undertaking additional surveys represents an important contribution to the project.



Digging at Roughleeze, 2007. A precursor to Between the monuments project

Between the Monuments: Excavation Summer 2013

One of the common questions that visitors to the Avebury landscape ask is where did the people who built the great monuments such as the Avebury henge, Silbury Hill and West Kennet long barrow live? People often want to know what life was like during the Neolithic and early Bronze Age. Did people travel long distances to take part in monument building and ceremony? Was life peaceful and harmonious or competitive and full of conflict?

These have not been easy questions for archaeologists to answer. The evidence of everyday life during these periods is much more ephemeral - and so difficult to both detect and interpret - than that related to ceremony.

A new project entitled 'Between the Monuments', a partnership between archaeologists in UK universities and at the National Trust, aims to tackle these issues. Over the next five years a number of locations where traces of settlement and other kinds of non-monumental activity are known or suspected, will be investigated. The first excavation will take place over three weeks this summer on a middle-late Neolithic settlement site first encountered during Alexander Keiller's work on the West Kennet Avenue in the 1930s. This belongs to an interesting and little understood phase in the region's Neolithic history, coming after the construction of early Neolithic monuments such as the Windmill Hill enclosure and the numerous long barrows, but perhaps before the Avebury henge was created.

Guided by National Trust volunteers, visitors will have a chance to view the excavations as they happen during late July and early August.

Josh Pollard University of Southampton



Mesolithic bone and tool (above) and a pair of stone 'ducks' unearthed at Vespasian's Camp near Stonehenge

Vespasian's Camp – Cradle of Stonehenge?

David Jacques, Senior Research fellow in Archaeology at the University of Buckingham, has been directing the digging at Blick Mead springs since 2005. Amesbury residents, university students and representatives from Amesbury's biggest employer Qinetiq have been working on an amazing find of a Mesolithic home base, the earliest place of residence in the Stonehenge ritual landscape. Radio carbon dates show it was lived in and visited between 7596 and 4695 BC, so close to a phenomenal 3000 years! The dates link the communities who created, put up and used the landscape's oldest monument, the 8th and 7th millennia BC Mesolithic posts, which were situated where the current Stonehenge car park is now, and connect with the 5th millennium BC, the time of the dawn of the Neolithic in the area.

Over 12,000 pieces of worked flint, burnt flint and 350 pieces of animal remains have been recovered which show the Plain was visited by huge animals like aurochs, which were double the size of a cow.



David Jacques, with part of the pelvis of an auroch

The Amesbury Heritage Centre has great plans for the future but for the time being is open on Wednesdays and a small selection of the many items found by David and the team can be found there as well as more information on the rich history of the town of Amesbury.



Surveyors working at Stonehenge

Photo © English Heritage

Laser scanning at Stonehenge

In October 2012 English Heritage announced the results of the first comprehensive laser scan survey undertaken at Stonehenge. Archaeological analysis was carried out to examine the high resolution data that had been captured in early 2011 for all the stone surfaces.

The scan survey revealed significant differences in the way that stones were shaped and worked. These differences show that Stonehenge was not only aligned with the solstices, but that the view of the monument from the Avenue, its ancient processional way to the north east, was particularly important.

To approach and view the stone circle from this direction means that the midwinter sunset had special meaning to prehistoric people, and that they made deliberate efforts to create a dramatic spectacle for those approaching the monument from the north east.



Photo © English Heritage

A detailed analysis reveals that those stones on the outer sarsen circle visible when approaching from the north east have been completely pick dressed – that is, the natural brown and grey crust on the surface of the stone has been removed exposing a fine, bright grey-white surface. By contrast, the outer faces of surviving uprights in the south-western segment of the circle were not pick dressed.

Those stones facing north east are also the largest and most uniform in shape, unlike the south western segment of the monument where there are several smaller and more irregular stones. The lintels are also exceedingly well worked and finished, compared to those that survive elsewhere in the monument.

The study also shows that the techniques and amounts of labour used vary from stone to stone. These variations provide almost definitive proof that it was the intent of Stonehenge's builders to align the monument with the two solstices along a north-east/south-west axis.

The sides of the stones that flanked the solstice axis were found to have been most carefully worked to form very straight and narrow rectangular slots. These stones include two of the north-east facing sarsens in the outer circle, the Great Trilithon in the inner sarsen horseshoe, and a now isolated upright stone in the south-west segment of the outer circle.

Since all the other stones have visibly more natural, less neat outlines, this strongly suggests that special effort was made to dress those that flank the NE/SW axis to allow a more dramatic and obvious passage of sunlight through the stone circle on midsummer and midwinter solstices.

The results of the survey exceeded all expectations and led to the discovery of many more prehistoric carvings including 71 new Bronze Age axeheads, which bring the number of this type of carving known at Stonehenge to 115.

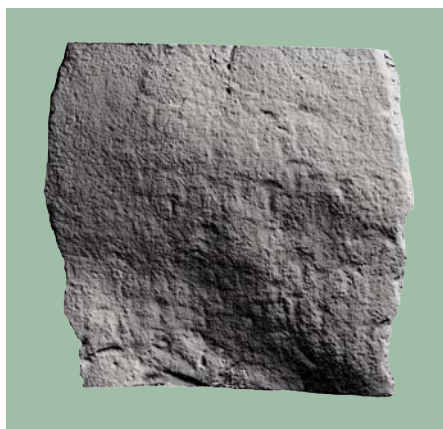


Photo © English Heritage

The full report can be downloaded from this website:

<http://www.englishheritage.org.uk/about/news/stonehenge-solstitial-function/>



Lyn Bennett-Nutt, Shop Manager and Liz Phillips, Volunteer with an array of Wiltshire products



Avebury Community Shop

March 2013 marked the fourth anniversary of the Avebury Community Shop at Hope Cottage.

The shop is run by a lovely group of local volunteers. Youngsters on our rota are gaining confidence and also relevant work experience for their CVs while older volunteers often say the shop is a lifeline for them. They might not see anyone from one day to the next, but time in the shop ensures they keep up with all the local gossip! Another way we keep people connected is by providing a delivery service to those unable to get out for whatever reason.

We guarantee that all our surplus profits go back into the local village and to local charities.

Being at the heart of the World Heritage Site, we are in a perfect position to showcase Wiltshire to visitors from all around the world. We are committed to supporting our local businesses as well as our local people. Whenever possible we try to source our stock from within Wiltshire and are proud to have delicious local products from a wide range of local suppliers including among many others Wiltshire Bee Centre, Handmade Cider and Athelstan Farm Foods.

If you would like to volunteer or you know of a local supplier we could be supporting, please contact us at:

Telephone: 01672 539200 Email: aveburyshop@xlninternet.co.uk

Claire Bennett



Photo © Wiltshire Wildlife Trust

Get involved

There are numerous ways to get involved with the work of the Stonehenge & Avebury World Heritage Site.

At Avebury, the National Trust requires volunteers to help with the opening of Avebury Manor and the Alexander Keiller Museum as well as giving guided tours and welcoming visitors.

At Stonehenge, the new visitor centre means an expanded offering by both English Heritage and the National Trust in the areas of education and welcoming visitors to the World Heritage Site. The new developments mentioned on pages 7 and 8 at the Wiltshire Museum and Salisbury Museum also require your help.

We held a successful Volunteer Recruitment Fair in March at the Guildhall and we plan to hold another one on Tuesday 17 September at the Guildhall, Salisbury from 10am – 2pm. Whether you are a student, retired or about to retire, unemployed or simply want to learn new skills and meet people this event will give the opportunity for people of all ages to explore opportunities available in the coming months. To find out more about the event and which organisations will be attending, check out our website or contact

stonehengewhs@english-heritage.org.uk

Do please come and see us!

www.english-heritage.org.uk/volunteering
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/get-involved/volunteer
www.salisburymuseum.org.uk/support-us/volunteer
www.wiltshireheritage.org.uk

Exploring the Stonehenge & Avebury landscapes

The Stonehenge Environmental Improvements Project not only involves a new visitor centre with world class exhibition and visitor facilities but also an interpretation scheme developed in partnership with the National Trust for the landscape immediately around the stones.



Walking tours can be found in a number of places but the National Trust website is a good starting point.

Photo © National Trust

The Stonehenge & Avebury WHS is not just a collection of individual monuments but landscapes shaped by humans over thousands of years. The best way to explore both parts of the WHS and experience for yourself first hand the relationships between their monuments is on foot.

To help you navigate around the WHS a new map is to be published later this year by English Heritage called *Exploring the World Heritage Site Stonehenge and Avebury*. This map is specifically designed for people to explore the landscape of both parts of the WHS with Avebury on one side and Stonehenge on the other. It will feature both visible and buried Neolithic and Bronze Age archaeology. You soon realise why this area is a World Heritage Site when you see the concentration of archaeology in the landscape.

Panels at key points in the landscape will help to orientate visitors and give them more information about the key features that make up the WHS.

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/stonehenge-landscape/things-to-see-and-do/

has two walks around Stonehenge that you can download as a PDF.

The Wiltshire Council website has information at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/leisureandrecreation/walkingandcycling.htm on walking and cycling in the County. In particular their publication *Bus Walks - An introduction to bus walks in the Salisbury area* has some walks in the Stonehenge area.

The Ridgeway National Trails website at <http://www.nationaltrail.co.uk/ridgeway/downloads.asp?PageId=80> has a circular walk within the Avebury WHS.

Chinese visitors to Stonehenge & Avebury World Heritage Site

At the end of June this year the Avebury and Stonehenge WHS coordinators played host to a group of senior heritage managers from China.

Professor Peter Stone, the Director of the International Centre for Cultural and Heritage Studies (ICCHS) at Newcastle University, organised the study tour of the United Kingdom for a group of senior civil servants from Xi'an, the home of the terracotta warriors and the Mausoleum of the First Qin Emperor World Heritage Site.

The aim of the group's visit to the UK was to explore current thinking and practice in the management of heritage resources in the United Kingdom.

The United Kingdom is considered a leading authority in heritage management and its approach to World Heritage Site management planning is widely accepted as a model of best practice. Post graduate heritage management courses attract students to the United Kingdom from across the world. Some of these students have completed placements in the World Heritage Site. At Avebury the World Heritage Site Officer has worked with students from South Korea and Europe as well as home students.

The Chinese visitors were given a presentation on the World Heritage Site and its management by Sarah Simmonds and Beth Thomas in the National Trust's Avebury Study Centre. This was followed by a site visit to Avebury and Stonehenge to look at some of the issues on the ground.

The Red Lion in the centre of Avebury provided an experience of traditional English pub culture and a taste of local food for our visitors at lunchtime.



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JULY 2013



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United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Stonehenge, Avebury
and Associated Sites
Inscribed on the World
Heritage List in 1986

SALISBURY & SOUTH WILTSHIRE
MUSEUM



WILTSHIRE HERITAGE MUSEUM



ENGLISH HERITAGE

Working in partnership with

Wiltshire Council
Where everybody matters



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National
Trust

