



# Monthly eNewsletter

October 2021

Hi everyone,

As I write this we are only a week away from our Discovery 2021! conference. We have a great programme lined up for the day and I hope everyone enjoys the conference.

Unfortunately last month we received the sad news of the passing of Tom Hayes. Tom made a great contribution to the Society over the years, particularly as President and Vice-President throughout the 2000s and for starting the tradition of the annual study tours. Tom will be sadly missed by the Society and our deepest sympathies go to Angela, Anne, and all his family.

Best wishes,

Duncan

*Editor*

## Lectures 2021

There is only one lecture left in our programme for 2021. If you have missed any of the lectures or want to watch them again, they are all available on our YouTube channel - [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC\\_axPKzQwK60Pm6VOQUgLTw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_axPKzQwK60Pm6VOQUgLTw)

6 December      **Reconstructing Ireland's Castles: An Archaeological Interpretation of the Environs of the Irish Tower-House**  
Dr Michael O'Mahony, Queen's University Belfast

We are in the process of putting together our programme for 2022. The lectures are most likely to be online, over Zoom, but it may be possible to have hybrid lectures later in the year.

If anyone would like to give a lecture or have suggestions of speakers, please send these to the President, Ruairí Ó Baoill - [r.obaoill@qub.ac.uk](mailto:r.obaoill@qub.ac.uk)

# Discovery 2021! Conference

The programme for the conference is now finalised and there are many interesting talks. Registration will be open until Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> November.

Further information about the conference and a registration form are on our website - <https://www.qub.ac.uk/sites/uas/Conference/>

You can also make a donation to support the costs of the conference and the work of the UAS.

Discovery 2021! Programme

**Saturday 6th November 2021**

**Book online - <https://www.qub.ac.uk/sites/uas/Conference/>**

- 9.30 Conference Welcome:**  
**Professor Eileen Murphy** (Co-Director of the Centre for Community Archaeology, School of Natural and Built Environment, Queen's University Belfast)  
**Ruairí Ó Baoill** (President of the Ulster Archaeological Society)  
**Dr Duncan Berryman** (Conference Co-ordinator, Ulster Archaeological Society)
- 9.40 Keynote Address:**  
**Professor Carenza Lewis** (University of Lincoln)  
*The feelgood factor: Exploring archaeology, volunteering and wellbeing in the UK and Europe.*
- 10.10 SESSION 1: COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGY**  
**Professor Eileen Murphy** (Queen's University Belfast)  
*On 'the Line' - Excavation of a Famine Road in Boho, County Fermanagh.*

**Arlene Copeland, Emma Grossmith, Anne Harper, and Veronica Williams** (The Friends of Knock Iveagh)  
*Breathing life into the embers at Knock Iveagh: The importance of community guardianship in protecting heritage at risk.*

**Kate Robb** (John Cronin & Associates)  
*St. Mura's Cross-Slab, Fahan, County Donegal: Community, Collaboration, Resilience.*

**11.10** ***Morning Tea/ Coffee Break***

**11.30** **SESSION 2: PREHISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGY**

**Dr Will Megarry** (Queen's University Belfast) and  
**Professor Gabriel Cooney (University College Dublin)**  
*Living on the Edge: Mining, Marginality and Materiality in Neolithic Shetland.*

**Cóilín Ó Drisceoil** (National Monuments Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage) and  
**Aidan Walsh** (Aidan Walsh Consultancy)  
*Materialising Power- new archaeology from the Black Pigs Dyke, County Monaghan.*

**Dr Robert Barratt** (Queen's University Belfast)  
*3D simulation as a tool for archaeological enquiry: measuring astronomical alignments in Neolithic Malta.*

**12.30** **SESSION 3: RECENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS**

**Ruth Logue** (Centre for Community Archaeology, Queen's University Belfast) *Surprises at Stranmillis.*

**Chris Lynn** (Gahan & Long Ltd)  
*An inherited place: An investigation of a late prehistoric settlement and famine cemetery in Downpatrick.*

**Dr Heather Montgomery** (Centre for Community Archaeology, Queen's University Belfast)  
*Phase 2 - Community Excavations at Magilligan Military Training Estate, County Londonderry, 2021.*

**1.30 Q & A for Morning Sessions**

**1.40 Lunch**

**2.20 SESSION 4: MEDIEVAL ARCHAEOLOGY**

**Louise Moffett** (Queen's University Belfast)  
*Combining Archaeological and Documentary Sources for Late Medieval Churches in the North of Ireland.*

**Dr Tracy Collins** (National Monuments Service, Department of Culture, Heritage & the Gaeltacht)  
*Re-discovering Nunneries in Medieval Ireland.*

**Judith Findlater** (Queen's University Belfast)  
*Feeding Carrickfergus: A Zooarchaeological Study.*

**3.20 Afternoon Tea/ Coffee Break**

**3.40 SESSION 5: ARCHITECTURE AND INDUSTRY**

**Dr Colm Donnelly** (Queen's University Belfast)  
*Building Surveys of Five Vernacular Cottages from County Fermanagh.*

**Dr Christy Cunniffe** (Galway Community Archaeology)  
*From the Ulster Borderlands to the Sliabh Aughty Uplands: The Post-Medieval archaeology of Ulster Catholics displaced following the Battle of the Diamond.*

**Brian Sloan** (Centre for Community Archaeology, Queen's University Belfast)  
*Excavations at Newmills, County Tyrone.*

**Stephen Gilmore** (Northern Archaeological Consultancy Ltd)

*“Built a good brick house” - 300 years of change and development in the Belfast brick Industry.*

**5.00 Q & A for Afternoon Sessions**

**5.10 BOOK LAUNCH AND CLOSE OF CONFERENCE**

Launch of Dr Cormac McSparron’s ***Burials and Society in Late Chalcolithic and Early Bronze Age Ireland. Queen’s University Belfast Irish Archaeological Monograph Series 1*** (published by Archaeopress).

## Obituary: Thomas Dominic Hayes OBE BE



Tom Hayes was born in Dublin in 1928 and educated at St Augustine's College, Dungarvin, Co Waterford where he developed an aptitude for ancient Greek and eventually became fluent in Irish, French and German and had a working knowledge of Russian and Italian.

Tom studied Mechanical and Electrical Engineering in University College Dublin where he first met Angela in amateur dramatics. They married in 1953 and immediately moved to Toronto, where he worked in telecommunications, then transferred to Belgium. In 1962, he joined ITT and the family, now with children

Mark, Miriam and Anne, moved to Harlow in Essex. Tom's final career move in 1986 was to STC (Nortel) in Monkstown and the family took up residence in Jordanstown. After retirement he undertook part-time lecturing in management at Ulster University's School of Engineering and became chairman of the board of governors for the East Antrim Institute for Further Education. He was awarded the OBE in 2002.



Tom regularly attended mass, first in Whitehouse, where Angela was organist and choir mistress, then in Greenisland. He never missed attendance while on any of the UAS field trips and was an active member of the Knights of Columbanus for over 30 years. This deep personal faith supported him through the tragic deaths of two of his children - Mark and Miriam.

In retirement Tom studied the gospels in ancient Greek and pursued a lifelong love of archaeology by joining the UAS in 1988 and they became enthusiastic supporters of the Society's lectures and field trips. With his scientific background, knowledge of languages, ancient and modern, and wide reading he became a regular and erudite contributor to these trips. From 1997-1999 and 2000-2002 he was

elected to the standing committee and then in 2003 became President of the Ulster Archaeological Society. On standing down in 2006, he became a vice-president for a further six years.



Tom at Warkworth Castle

Tom and Angela enjoyed frequent trips to their cottage in Tyrone where his interest in astronomy and archaeology prompted him to write a paper, published in the Ulster Journal of Archaeology (1999), entitled "Using Astronomy in Archaeology - a look at the Beaghmore Alignments".

Using his knowledge of Russian, in 2005 Tom seized the opportunity of organising a Society trip to St Petersburg following an invitation from Prof Yuri Chistov of the Kunstkamera who had lectured to the UAS. This was followed two years later by a visit to Brittany which initiated a long tradition of overseas

study tours. In other years Tom organised trips in our Irish County programme including Kilkenny (2006) and Wicklow (2008). Tom's professional skills guided the committee through his presidency and his easy sociability, calm enthusiasm, boundless knowledge and love of archaeology enriched all who met him. In recognition of his contribution he was awarded Honorary life membership in 2018.



Tom and Angela at Carnota

Tom remained physically, mentally and socially active despite being handicapped by failing eyesight. He died on 11th September 2021, aged 93, following a fall while working in his garden. Tom and Angela were inseparable for seventy years and our thoughts are with her, his daughter Anne and grandchildren in England and the USA.

**Barrie Hartwell**

**UAS Vice-President**



## Online Activities

### **Historic Environment Division**

The Historic Environment Division is currently consulting on the state care monuments. Questions cover the visitor experience at several sites and ask what your priorities for these sites would be. There are plenty of open comment boxes for you to expand on your answers. The survey can be accessed here until 17<sup>th</sup> November 2021 - <https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/dfc/state-care-monuments-survey/>

### **Society of Antiquaries of Scotland - Rhind Lectures 2021 "Untimely Ends" by Prof John Hunter**

Archaeologists have always been fond of the dead. Their study enables us to learn about past societies and gives us free rein to air views and theories about what went on, what people believed in, and how the dead were disposed of and commemorated. It would seem that we tend to think about the past in a different manner to the way we think about the present. This year's Rhind Lecture series will try and link the past and the present in an unusual way.

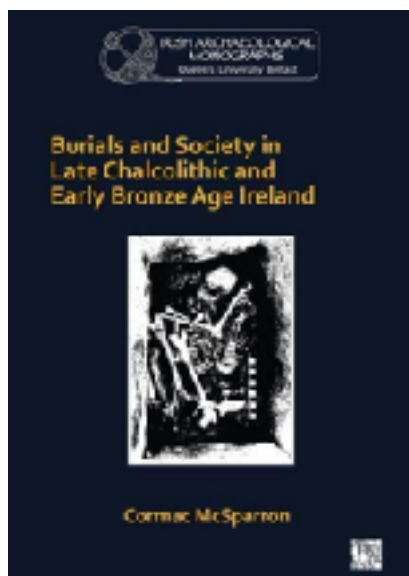
All the lectures are available on YouTube - [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLomxmmDt-nnLtR\\_NJBSrAcx0\\_yCWAD5i1](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLomxmmDt-nnLtR_NJBSrAcx0_yCWAD5i1)

### **DigVentures - Why We Dig**

Why We Dig is a brand new docuseries featuring archaeologists from DigVentures. Filmed on real excavations, this is archaeology as you've never seen it before. Yes, there are discoveries. And yes, there is drama. But most importantly, there are the stories of the people who do the dirty work - the archaeologists themselves. It's archaeology for the Netflix generation!

Watch now - <https://digventures.com/watch/why-we-dig/>

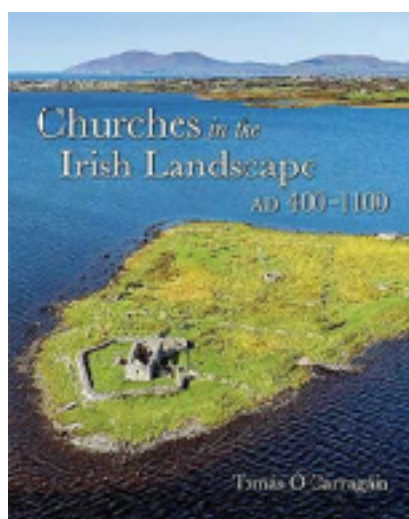
## New Books



### **Burials and Society in Late Chalcolithic and Early Bronze Age Ireland - Cormac McSparron**

Archaeopress, £35

This is the first volume in a series of Irish Archaeological Monographs by Queen's University Belfast and Archaeopress, and this volume presents the doctoral research of Cormac McSparron. This book opens with an overview of the Chalcolithic period and a discussion of theoretical approaches to the study of funerary archaeology. The majority of the volume is an analysis of burial traditions, such as grave goods, pottery motifs, grave size, sex patterns, and locations of burials. The final chapters discuss what we have learnt about Irish society in the Chalcolithic and Early Bronze Age, there is also a proposal for a chronological model of the single burial tradition in Ireland. This book is a rich source of data, with every possible aspect of burials being analysed, supported by extensive distribution maps, tables, and graphs. This means that it makes a significant contribution to our understanding of prehistoric Ireland and will be essential reading for anyone studying that period, but it is not a book for the casual reader.



### **Churches in the Irish Landscape AD 400–1100 - Tomás Ó Carragáin**

Cork University Press, £45

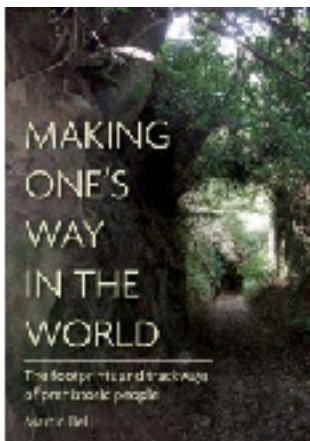
This is an important study of the early medieval church in Ireland, discussing the arrival and development of church foundations and estates. There was an evident move from the earliest foundations as part of royal estates to churches serving communities. The chapters of the book discuss these changes chronologically, with subsections for the case study areas. The layout and illustrations make this book accessible to a lay reader, there are many interesting diagrams, such as excavation plans and cross-slabs, and the distribution diagrams are clear and useful. This volume will be of immense use to anyone studying the early medieval period, as the church had an impact on the landscape, landholdings, and society (all of which is covered here). It will also be of interest to a lay reader, as the information about the sites will help to bring them to life if you were to visit, and parallels can be drawn with church sites closer to home.



### **Temporary Places: The Great House in European Prehistory - Richard Bradley**

Oxbow Books, £16.99

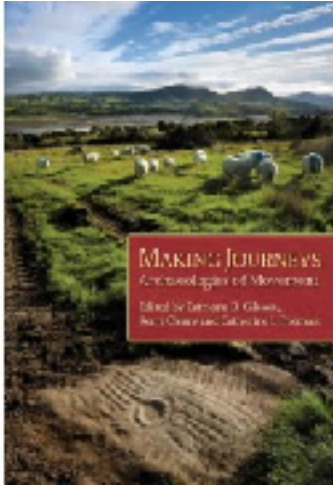
Continuing Oxbow's 'Insights' series, this book provides an overview of prehistoric halls or great houses that were at the centre of these societies. Ireland features prominently throughout, with sites such as Navan, Tara, and Knockaulin among the many examples discussed. Bradley covers the archaeological evidence from these sites and goes on to suggest how these structures were used and the meanings of their construction and destruction. This is a useful reference book for these buildings and widens the perspective to include all of northern Europe and parts of eastern Europe.



### **Making One's Way in the World - Martin Bell**

Oxbow Books, £50

This book covers a wide range of topics related to journeys through the prehistoric landscape and is extensively illustrated. Trackways and footprints are given significant study, with footprints showing routes of Mesolithic hunters. Wetland trackways provide clear evidence of routeways and the past environment, here Ireland provides examples from the later prehistoric period. Bell also considers how the landscape was changed to enable journeys, such as the use of barrows for navigation or the management of woodland. This book also provides interesting parallels between prehistoric Europe and America. This is a very interesting book, providing many new perspectives on how people travelled through their landscapes while also connecting monuments to the wider landscape. This will be an engaging read for anyone interested in European prehistory.



**Making Journeys: Archaeologies of Mobility - Catriona Gibson, Kerri Cleary & Catherine Frieman (eds)**

Oxbow Books, £40

This volume brings together a range of papers discussing the movement of people and ideas in the past. The papers cover a wide geographical area, from the Yorkshire Wolds and Sweden to Cyprus and the Eurasian Steppe, while the time period is predominantly the Bronze Age. There are many interesting aspects discussed within these papers. One example is Yolande O'Brien's study of the use of mountains and other natural features for navigation in the past, features such as Croagh Patrick and the lakes of Glendalough. Peter Clark's paper on the Dover Bronze Age boat gives us an insight into the maritime mobility of people in the past. This volume makes a useful contribution to our understanding of the Bronze Age and highlights part of life that leaves very little trace in the archaeological record and is often overlooked.