



**Natural & Historic Environment
Monthly update**



Archaeology in Suffolk on the BBC 12th December 2018

Digging For Britain on BBC Four will be covering two sites in Suffolk which are of national significance. The East Anglia One project which I'm sure people are familiar with will be featured as well as Fentons Farm in Great Whelnetham. The episode which covers Suffolk goes out on the 12th of December.

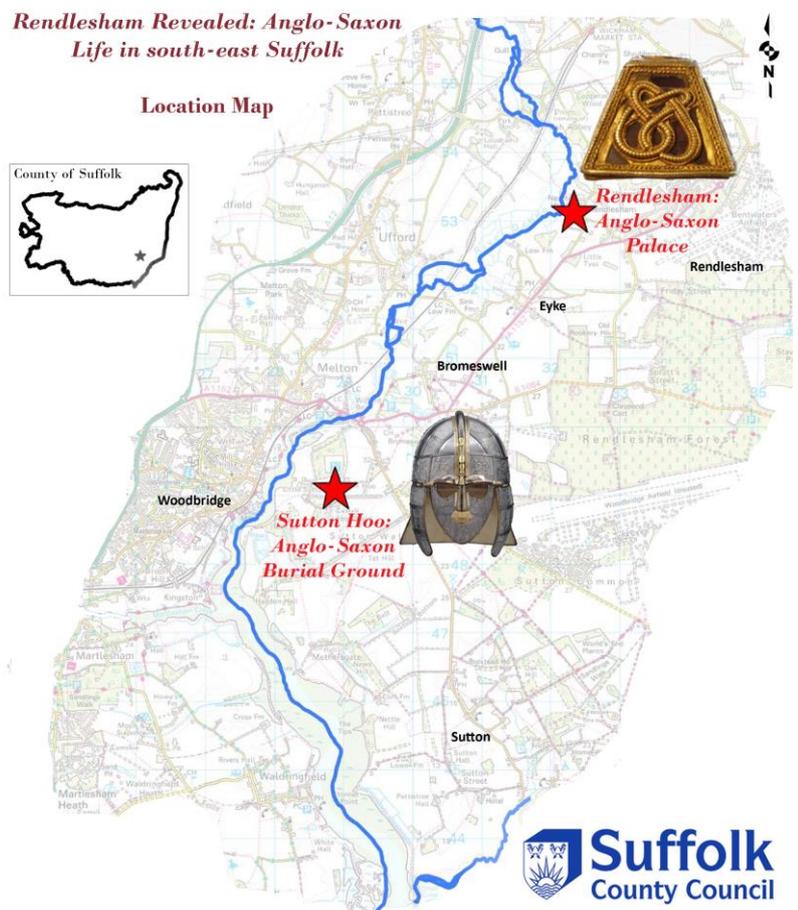
**Rendlesham Revealed: Anglo-Saxon Life in south-east Suffolk
A Heritage Lottery Funded community archaeology project**

Since the good news of our successful Heritage Lottery Fund application in July, the project's development phase is now well underway. The new Project Delivery Officer, Alice Saunders, has been in post since September, and is conducting a desk-based archaeological assessment, as well as planning trial training sessions in geophysical survey and fieldwalking which will take place next spring with University of Bradford and University of East Anglia. We also have our first Partnership Advisory Group meeting in December where we will present our proposed project activities and work on identifying our audiences. With the help of a consultant, we are undertaking audience research to determine who our audience will be and what their interests are. As part of this we would be very grateful if you could take a few minutes to complete this short questionnaire and share with any friends/family and across your network:

Please take a few minutes to complete this short audience research questionnaire:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/GL5DSST>

More information about the project and Rendlesham can be found on our website <https://heritage.suffolk.gov.uk/rendleshamrevealed> or you can contact alice.saunders@suffolk.gov.uk



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Sandlands facilitation – Farmer led groups for conservation

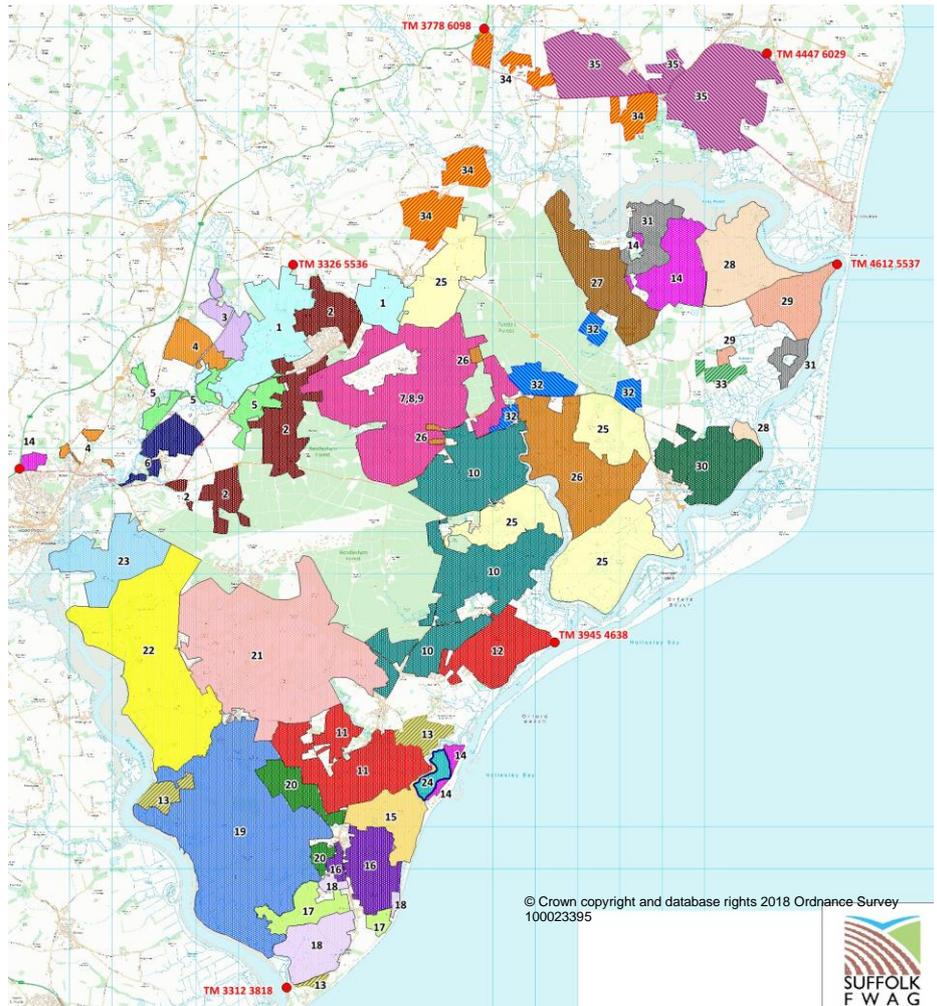
Facilitation is the concept of developing cooperation between land managers for the creation of landscape scale habitat schemes where the environmental, ecological and public benefit of the whole is greater than the sum of the individual holdings working separately.

Our goal is to work together to enhance / increase habitat, biodiversity and wildlife on a long term and sustainable basis, across The East Suffolk Sandlands. Improve soil and water health and reduce erosion and pollution.

The three groups, the Sandlands, Felixstowe peninsula and Shotley peninsula includes 60 holdings, some 22,000 hectares from north of the River Alde down to the Stour.

This farmer-led initiative gives its members training opportunities, a support network, the opportunity to deliver wildlife benefits outside of Stewardship schemes and knowledge/resource/labour sharing. It allows members to have close contact with Stewardship officers, DEFRA, partner organisations and opens the door to other funding. As a large group of land managers, we have the chance to influence future Countryside Schemes. With this complete farmer ownership of the project, we aim to cooperate, identify challenges, educate and enthuse those that manage this unique landscape.

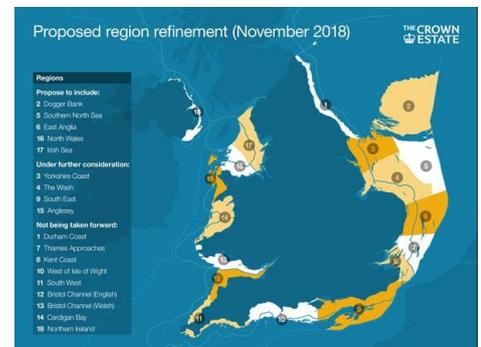
Diane Ling - Farm Conservation Advisor Suffolk Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group
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Energy Projects

Suffolk Coast identified for “Round 4” offshore wind projects

The Crown Estate have identified the Suffolk Coast as a location for further seabed leases for offshore wind development, full details and further information on the next steps can be found at; <https://www.thecrownestate.co.uk/en-gb/media-and-insights/news/2018-the-crown-estate-shares-further-detail-on-plans-for-round-4-including-proposed-locations-to-be-offered-for-new-seabed-rights/>



Sizewell C stage 3 consultation dates are published

Stage 3 Public Consultation will run for 12 weeks, ending on Friday 29 March 2019. Details of the consultation can be found at; <http://sizewell.edfenergyconsultation.info/szc-proposals/stage-3/>



AONBs

State of the AONBs Survey

Once in a decade opportunity to let us know about the 'State of the AONB'

The AONB Joint Advisory Committees have recently commissioned a 'State of the AONB' report. The reports will inform future management decisions within the nationally designated areas and provide evidence for future grant applications.



We need your input into what you know about the AONBs. Please undertake the online survey at <http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/AONBSurvey> and encourage others to do so as well. This will really help us understand what residents and visitors know about the AONBs

Great British Beach Clean - Results for Suffolk

- 664 volunteers took part.
- 46.2 hours were spent surveying.
- 812.8 volunteer hours were donated during GBBC 2018.
- 2540m of beach were surveyed.
- 68.5 bin bags were filled.
- 184.1 kg of rubbish was collected
- 7804 items in total were cleared off the beach



An average of 325.6 items were found and removed from the beach for every 100m surveyed

New Coast and Estuary Wardens Recruited

There has been recent increase in people asking to become Coast & Estuary Wardens so we held an Induction session on the 20th November and recruited five more volunteers to the scheme, and three more were also inducted on the 4th December.

Lynn Allen - Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONB Countryside Projects Officer

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Historic Environment



December 2018's featured PAS recent find is a base silver penny of Alfred the Great, dating c. 871-875 and found in the Exning area.

Born in 849, on ascending to the throne of Wessex in AD 871, Alfred faced a gargantuan task. The youngest son of King Aethelred, the kingdom had faced prominent threats from the Danes ('Vikings') since the arrival of the Great Heathen Army in 865. Suffering humiliating defeats in January, March and

May of 871 despite a victory won at the Battle of Ashdown in Berkshire (to which Alfred is given much credit), he was forced to make peace with the invaders-probably achieved by large

monetary payments. The next six years would see the low ebb of Anglo-Saxon England as every kingdom except Wessex fell to the Danes. Under Guthrum Wessex was attacked again in 876 before being repulsed by Alfred, who blockaded their fleet in Devon and forced them to submit. Despite this success, in January 878 while staying at Chippenham, Wiltshire, Alfred's royal court was suddenly attacked, and he was forced to flee with a small band of followers to the Somerset Levels. It is from this clandestine period in Alfred's life that the myth regarding his inadvertent burning of a peasant woman's cakes originates, though the myth itself first appears much later in the 12th century- over two centuries after Alfred had died. Though effectively disenfranchised, it was from this remote location that Alfred mounted an effective guerrilla resistance, rallying local troops to fight the Danes. Four months later, Alfred emerged from hiding and mustered forces from Somerset, Wiltshire and West Hampshire, winning a decisive victory against Guthrum at the Battle of Edington. Pursuing him back to Chippenham and eventually receiving submission from the Danes, Alfred (having made Guthrum convert to Christianity as part of the surrender deal) negotiated what is now called the Treaty of Wedmore, an agreement by which the Scandinavian invaders would cease all hostilities and move to settle in East Anglia, creating an enlarged kingdom that came to be known as the 'Danelaw'.

The coin discovered in the Exning area is of Alfred's first issue, being made of a less pure silver than most other Anglo-Saxon pennies. The obverse depicts the diademed head of the king facing right, accompanied by the legend 'AELBRED REX' (Alfred, King). The reverse, on the other hand, demonstrates the name of the moneyer in three lines, set within two hemi-spherical motifs referred to as 'lunettes'. The inscription can be read as 'OD MO/BIARNM/NETA' (Biarnmod Moneta-moneyer Biarnmod). The location of the mint where this coin was struck is unknown, though it is likely to have been somewhere south of the river Thames.

Thanks are given to the finder of this object for permitting it to be featured as our December 'recent PAS find'. To see the full PAS record for this object, copy the following link into your browser bar (<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/928403>).

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