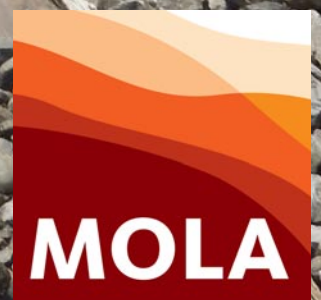


# HOW WE MADE A DIFFERENCE

MOLA Impact Report  
April 2016–September 2017

Archaeology engaging and enriching society





**Two tin-glazed pharmaceutical jars**  
These two drag jars, made in Southwark tin-glazed ware, date to the early to mid 17th century. The construction at the neck allowed a paper or muslin cover to be tied over the rim. They were found with several other pharmaceutical jars that can most likely be associated with the shop of apothecary John Farborough.

# About MOLA

## Chairman

A Michael Hoffman

## Trustees

Sharon Ament, Joanna Averley, Rosamund Blomfield Smith, Alison Gowman, Dr Marleen Groen, William McKee, Taryn Nixon, Eric Sorensen, Peter Stewart

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Sophie Jackson

## Director of Research

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MOLA is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales with company registration number 07751831 and charity registration number 1143574, with a subsidiary, MOLA Northampton (company number 8727508, charity number 1155198). Registered office: Mortimer Wheeler House, 46 Eagle Wharf Road, London N1 7ED

# OUR VISION

Our vision is to help communities and individuals connect with their heritage. We work on the simple yet powerful belief that history matters and that lives are richer when people connect to and are proud of the places in which they live and work.

## How we make a difference

As a leading archaeology and built heritage practice and educational charity, we provide expertise and services for housing, development, infrastructure and other construction schemes. We bring to light the irreplaceable information that lies in archaeological sites and historic buildings, landscapes, and artefacts. We make

that information accessible through ground-breaking research and community engagement projects. Our priority is to work in ways which benefit both the development project and its community, creating new knowledge, skills and understandings through archaeological discovery, research, participation and outreach.



## Who we work with

In addition to engaging with a diverse cross-section of the general public, in 2016/17 our research and community programmes focused on the following priority groups:

- School children in Key Stage 2
- Young people 16–25, NEET or At-Risk-Of-NEET
- Older people, 75 and over, at risk of isolation
- Dementia and Parkinsons sufferers and carers
- Supported Housing Groups
- Universities and research institutions
- Development and infrastructure clients
- Volunteer foreshore archaeologists
- Local community and stakeholder groups





Late Roman Interlaced  
Work, New Roman St  
Stephen Wallwork to east.



# GENERATING NEW KNOWLEDGE

Our in-house experts work collaboratively to undertake ground-breaking research creating new scholarship and inspiring new thinking. Our work is recognised by Research Councils UK through our status as an Independent Research Organisation.





**40,000+** people attended our lectures, guided walks, seminars, training events and workshops



**635** of our site reports are now available online via the Archaeology Data Service



**137** of our books are freely accessible in over 50 academic libraries



**125** archaeological site archives compiled and deposited in public repositories, available for future researchers



**60** archaeological sites and historical buildings investigated and researched



**20** academic institutions worked with across the UK, Spain, Germany, USA and Australia



## Shining new light on Roman London

MOLA specialists Amy Thorp and Michael Marshall worked with Lucy Creighton (Museum of London) and Hella Eckardt (University of Reading) to undertake research on the use of artificial light in Roman London. The project was made possible by a grant from the City of London Archaeological Trust. Members of the public helped to research and interpret the artefacts and their work was made available through the Museum of London's Collections Online and an upcoming co-authored journal article.

The volunteers produced records for 550 lamps. Alongside this, specialists examined the fabrics of the lamps, helping to define the source of imported lamps and narrow down the date of the birth of London's own lamp industry to the late 1st century AD.

The data produced has lots of potential for future research into the use of lamps in Roman London.

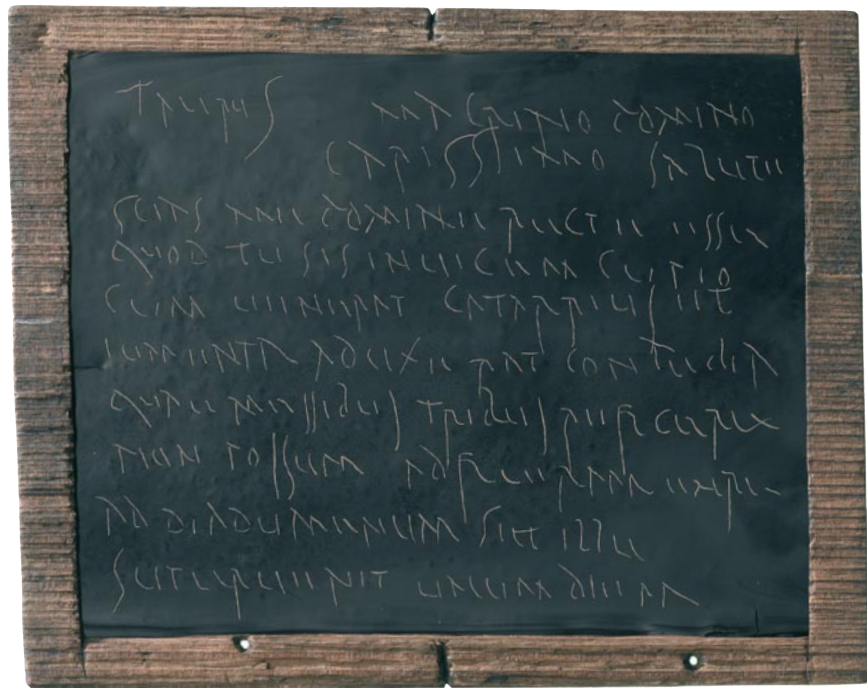


## Roman London's first voices, Bloomberg London

We collaborated with cursive Latin expert, Dr Roger Tomlin, to investigate Britain's largest, earliest and most significant collection of Roman waxed writing tablets. The collection, which boasts the first hand-written document known from Britain, was discovered during archaeological excavations for Bloomberg's new European headquarters. Romans all over the Empire used waxed writing tablets like paper, for note-taking and accounts, for correspondence and for legal documents. Previously only 19 legible tablets were known from London. Of the 405 from Bloomberg, 87 have been deciphered, more than quadrupling that number and providing an incredibly rare and personal insight into the first decades of Roman rule in Britain. In the words of the people who lived, worked, traded with and administered Roman London, the Bloomberg tablets reveal the names, events, workings and organisation of the new city.

'As steward of this ancient site and artefacts, Bloomberg has embraced the City of London's rich heritage. And as a company that is centered on communications – of data, information, news, and analysis – we are thrilled that Bloomberg has been at the core of a project that has provided so much new information about London's first half-century.'

*Michael Bloomberg*



## Layers of London: mapping the city's heritage

'Layers of London: mapping the city's heritage' has received initial Heritage Lottery Funding. Led by the Institute of Historical Research, the project is creating an interactive website of London's heritage. The expertise of MOLA geomaticians is being used to georectify major printed historic maps of London from the late 17th century onwards.

The project is run in collaboration with the British Library, London Metropolitan Archives, Historic England and The National Archives.



## Empire, consumption and domestic material culture in London, c 1600–1800

This partnership between Dr Alastair Owens of Queen Mary University (QMUL), London and MOLA experts Rupert Featherby and Jacqui Pearce aimed to trace the East India Company in the metropolitan archaeological record. The project also sought to increase the research and employment experience of undergraduate students through their participation in this research project. The team has examined archaeological collections of Asian goods from several sites and investigated documentary sources to find links.

## Crossrail scientific research

Archaeological investigations for Crossrail gave MOLA an opportunity to analyse human remains from the 17th-century New Churchyard, including a suspected plague mass burial pit. This was the first archaeological study of plague burials from this period in Britain and, as such, is a project of international importance. This discovery allowed our in-house experts to collaborate with a number of external specialists. Our osteologists took samples from the teeth of 20 individuals, which were sent for testing at the Max Planck Institute in Germany. Maria Spyrou and Kirsten Bos identified the plague pathogen, *Yersinia pestis*, in five of the samples. This was the first time the DNA of the bacterium responsible for 17th-century plague was identified and provides genomic level evidence of a disease that devastated Europe over a period of more than 300 years. The impact of this pathogen DNA work reaches beyond the field of archaeology into that of the study of the evolution and spread of ancient infectious disease. Skeletal material is a vital source of evidence and contributes significantly to our understanding of how infectious disease acted in the past and how emerging and re-emerging infections may act in the future.

## The first Berliners

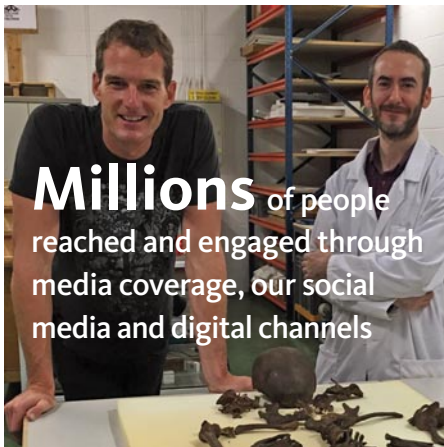
A collaborative research project, involving MOLA's osteologists and Claudia Melisch and Karin Wagner of the Landesdenkmalamt Berlin, emerged following the excavation of 3,717 human skeletons dating from the 13th to early 18th centuries in Berlin. The compatibility of this data with that held by MOLA resulted in a set of research questions comparing the

findings from the large medieval cemetery of St Mary Spital, London, to the Berlin data, contrasting the two medieval populations' social and environmental contexts. The research is revealing the nature of urban life experienced by the first Berliners and is providing a truly intra-European perspective on matters such as diet, lifestyle, health care, longevity and disease.



# CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

We use new archaeological discoveries to inspire a sense of pride and belonging in local communities.



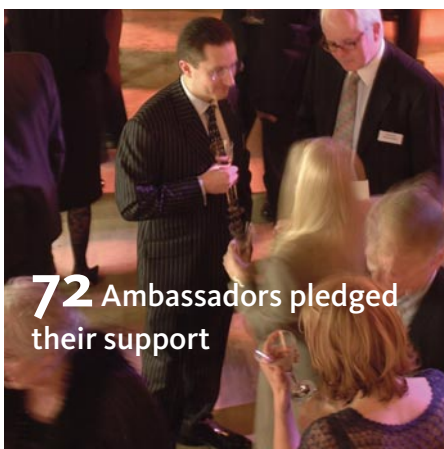
**Millions** of people reached and engaged through media coverage, our social media and digital channels



**16,000+** people directly involved in outreach over 320 events



**3,228** people had hands-on archaeology experiences at neighbourhood archaeology events



**72** Ambassadors pledged their support



**1** new Time Truck, and a Project Officer funded by Wates Giving



**1** new Senior Community Archaeologist funded by City Bridges Trust to engage socially isolated elderly people



## Setting The Stage, for the Curtain playhouse

At the site of the Curtain in Shoreditch, London, developers Galliard Homes with Cain International have embraced the Elizabethan playhouse as the centrepiece, The Stage, using archaeology to celebrate the unique identity and creative spirit of the place. Pop-up Time Truck events, an on-site visitor centre, viewing platform during the excavation, tours, performances and all the passion and enthusiasm of the project combined to enable us to reach 1,121 people last year, enabling them to be part of the regeneration and rebirth of this site as a place to live, work and create.



TimeTruck  
www.mola.org.uk

TimeTruck  
Archaeology on Wheels

MOLA

TimeTruck

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# The Time Truck

July 2016 saw the launch of the Time Truck, a mobile events space designed to host a range of engagement activities, including finds displays, schools workshops and even film screenings.

The Time Truck Outreach Programme includes archaeology-focussed schools workshops, public engagement events that have reached over 3,200 members of the public to date, and a Built Heritage Youth Engagement Programme that has currently engaged 14 young offenders in Haringey and Tower Hamlets.

The Time Truck works with forward-thinking influencers in the development and construction sectors to share the heritage of their sites with communities and stakeholders. The rapid growth of the programme has seen events as far afield as Southampton and has attracted philanthropic and corporate support.

The Time Truck and its associated Engagement Programme are generously funded by Brookfield, Oxford Properties, Stanhope, Thames Water, tp Bennett, Cain International, Galliard Homes, Multiplex, The Garfield Weston Foundation, Wates Giving, Northamptonshire County Council and the Heritage Lottery Fund.

## 5000 years of history at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park

With the support of legacy developers Lend Lease, the Time Truck pitched up at QEII Olympic Park in October 2016, showcasing fascinating finds and handling collections that told the long history of human activity in the area, with finds ranging from bronze age flints to moralising china from the 19th century, all of which was discovered during extensive excavations prior to the 2012 Games.

We received hundreds of public visitors whilst stationed at the Olympic Park, and were also delighted to welcome aboard 120 Key Stage 2 pupils from nearby Carpenter's Primary School, Newham, offering a new perspective on local history to children at the closest school to the Park.

'The children know more about what archaeology is and how it is relevant to them and their lives'

*Mrs Fabian, Y5 Teacher, St James Hatcham Primary, Lewisham*

'The Time Truck is really powerful medium for reaching out to schools and communities. We've put Shakespeare and Heritage at the heart of our development, and the Time Truck has allowed us to take the positive impact of that commitment to the heart of Hackney, the borough we are working in.'

*Robert Allan, Development Director, Cain International*

**GET INVOLVED**

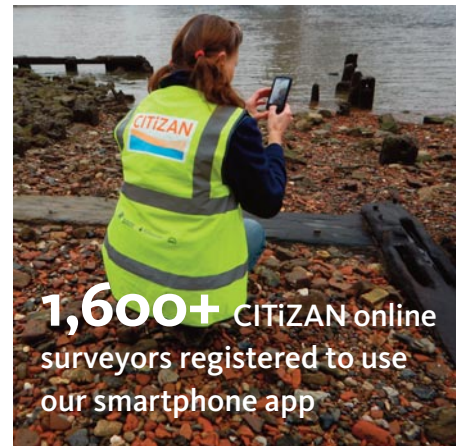
[www.mola.org.uk/time-truck](http://www.mola.org.uk/time-truck)



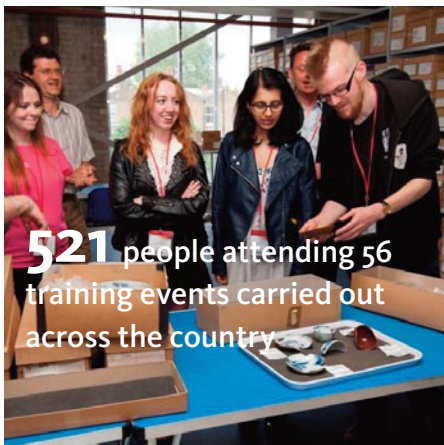
**6 million** viewers for Channel 4 Britain at Low Tide series inspired by and featuring CITiZAN



**3,361** people engaged nationwide in the CITiZAN Outreach Programme



**1,600+** CITiZAN online surveyors registered to use our smartphone app



**521** people attending 56 training events carried out across the country



**845** new archaeological features added to our interactive coastal map to date and 1400 monitoring updates submitted and published, supplying over 2200 new photos of heritage assets along England's coastline and estuaries



**89** outreach events held increasing awareness of coastal archaeology in England

# CITiZAN

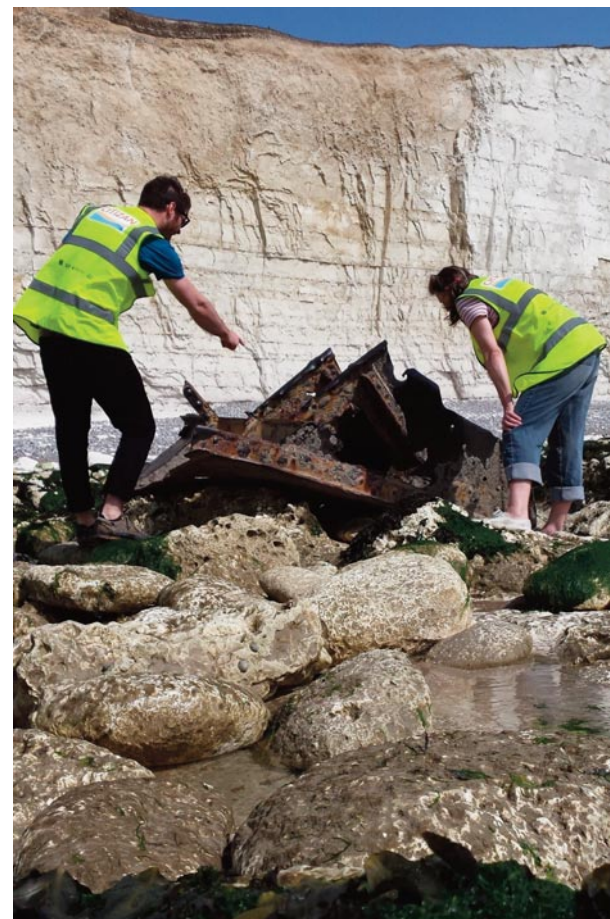
The HLF-funded Coastal and Intertidal Zone Archaeological Network (CITiZAN) records fragile coastal archaeology when it appears and empowers our citizen scientists to record and monitor these features using the CITiZAN app.

The systematic archaeological recording programme links to wider strategic coastal management programmes and is contributing directly to the national evidence-base for future decision making on coastal protection and adaptation.

*'I am very enthusiastic about CITiZAN: it ticks all the boxes: archaeology, active and fun'  
CITiZAN Surveyor*

**GET INVOLVED**


 @citizan1  
 www.citizan.org.uk





# Thames Discovery Programme

The Thames Discovery Programme provides access to archaeology and leads efforts to record the Thames foreshore, mobilising and training hundreds of volunteers. In addition to a busy training schedule two new project strands were launched– the City Bridge Trust funded over 75s programme, and the Tideway funded programme for families and young people. A busy events programme saw partnerships with National Maritime Museum, Historic Royal Palaces, Portable Antiquities Scheme, Guildhall Library, Gresham College, the Nautical Archaeology Society and St Paul's Institute.



*'Dreams come true  
when doing archaeology'  
Workshop participant,  
04/03/2017*

## GET INVOLVED



@thamesdiscovery



@thamesdiscoveryprogramme



www.thamesdiscovery.org



**191** events and activities,  
increasing awareness of  
intertidal archaeology in London



**10,938** people reached  
through the events programme



**104** people completing  
the FROG course



**1,044** people attending  
fieldwork and monitoring on  
22 sites



**1,066** people attending  
72 guided foreshore walks and  
riverside strolls



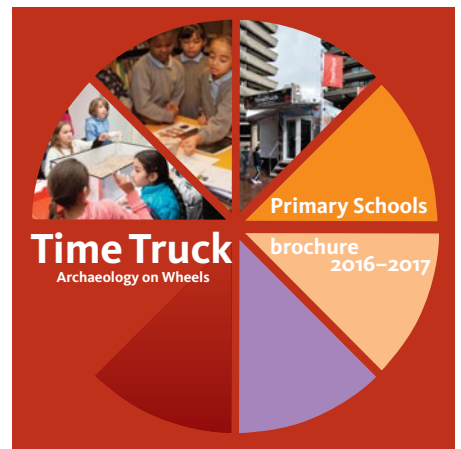
**1,941** people  
presented to across 35 lectures





# LEARNING AND CAPACITY-BUILDING

We provide school children, young people, adults and the elderly with opportunities to train and acquire new skills.



# Archaeology in schools

The Archaeology in Schools project offers a range of archaeology-led workshops for Key Stage 2, targeting primary schools in Lambeth, Lewisham, Newham, Southwark and Tower Hamlets.

A total of 5,548 children have been engaged during the first school year, with 1,200 schoolchildren also engaged through a pilot project funded by The City of London Archaeological Trust. The specially-designed sessions include London through the Ages, Cleaning up History, Health and Diet, and Skeleton Stories.



# Archaeology Traineeship

MOLA's pioneering Archaeology Traineeship was an exciting venture for us and for UK archaeology in its overall scope and ambition.

Over six months, 12 trainees who were new to archaeology, were schooled and mentored on a MOLA-designed course involving both theory and hands-on experience. Of the ten people who graduated, eight secured employment with MOLA and were able to launch their new careers in archaeology at a time when the sector is expecting to see a big surge in demand.





DISCOVER T

THE



# THE DIG



## Capturing memories – Teddington Studios

Teddington Studios were home to the earliest days of film-making, when Ec-Ko Films and then Master Films experimented with low-budget comedy and cowboy films, and then the early 'talkies'. Post Second World War, Teddington Studios became home for productions such as *The Avengers*, *Opportunity Knocks* and *The Tomorrow People*. When the site was scheduled to be redeveloped, MOLA organised a reunion of former employees to provide the opportunity to add recorded oral histories to the survey records we made of the buildings themselves.



## Capturing memories – temple of Mithras

Bloomberg's redevelopment of the site in central London where the Roman temple of Mithras had been uncovered in 1954, provided the occasion to reach out to the many people who had visited or in some way been touched by that remarkable discovery. A reunion of over 100 people heard some of the stories we recorded of people such as Molly Grimes, widow of W F Grimes who excavated the temple of Mithras in the 1950s, Mithra, who had been named after the site, and 93-year-old Eileen Grey, who had borrowed a ladder for sixpence to peer over the site fence back in 1954. Young citizen journalists from WORLDWrite, a Hackney-based educational charity dedicated to training young film-makers, were involved to chronicle the event.



# Published research

## MOLA published books

**Roman London's first voices: writing tablets from the Bloomberg excavations, 2010–14** by Roger S O Tomlin

**Crossrail Archaeology – Stepney Green: moated manor house to City Farm** by David Sankey

**Crossrail Archaeology – The Thames Iron Works 1837–1912: a major shipbuilder on the Thames investigated** by Daniel Harrison

**Crossrail Archaeology – Crosse and Blackwell 1830–1921: a British food manufacturer in London's West End** by Nigel Jeffries with Lyn Blackmore and David Sorapure

**Crossrail Archaeology – Charterhouse Square: Black Death cemetery and Carthusian monastery, meat market and suburb** by Sam Pfizenmaier

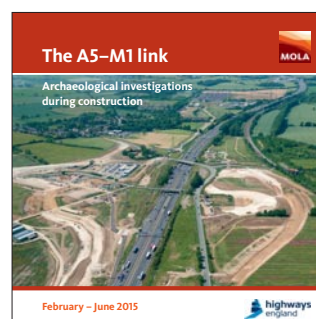
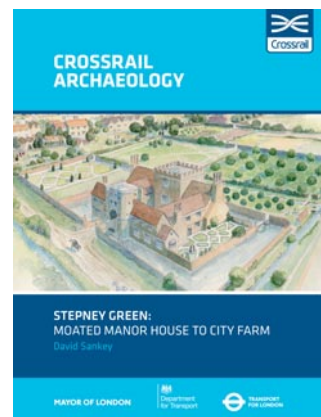
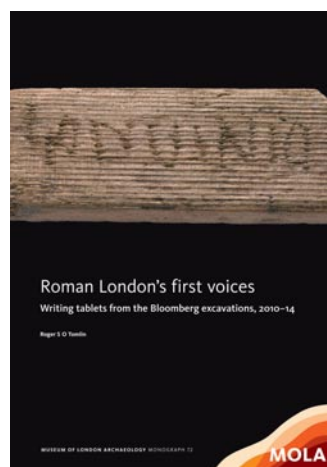
**The A5-M1 link Archaeological investigations during construction** by MOLA

**Crossrail Archaeology – A journey through time: Crossrail in the Lower Thames floodplain** by Graham Spurr with Mary Nicholls and Virgil Yendell

**Crossrail Archaeology – The New Churchyard: from Moorfields Marsh to Bethlem burial ground, Brokers Row and Liverpool Street** by Robert Hartle

**Crossrail Archaeology – Outside Roman London: Roadside burials by the Walbrook stream** by Serena Ranieri and Alison Telfer

**Spanning the Centuries: The historic bridges of Northamptonshire** by Julian Bowsler



## Archaeopress published books

**Iron Age, Roman and Anglo-Saxon settlement along the Empingham to Hannington pipeline in Northamptonshire and Rutland** by S Carlyle, J Clarke and A Chapman

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Time Truck

#TimeTruck Time Truck Archaeology on Wheels

THAMES DISCOVERY PROGRAMME  
DISCOVER LONDON'S RIVER HISTORY

Time Truck  
FREE

TOTALLY THAMES  
Take Me To The River

Brookfield  
KIPFLD  
DANHOPE







# Thanks

## Ambassadors for Archaeology

MOLA Ambassadors come from the worlds of industry, celebrity, academia and the public sector. They are influential leaders and experts in their fields who believe that history matters and have a passion for the role our heritage plays in contributing a sense of place and belonging for future generations and how archaeology can help us to understand modern society. They give their support in many different ways including: support for our flagship engagement projects; personal donations; and putting us in touch with opportunities to enable us to grow and deliver our impact.

We are delighted that 72 Ambassadors have now pledged their support. Together, our message is simple:

**Connecting with your heritage creates an enduring sense of place and identity that is vital to building a future where people belong. Archaeology as a practice is so wonderfully explorative, multidisciplinary and educational.**

Thanks to our Ambassadors we have a growing force of influential and enthusiastic advocates helping us to extend our reach.



# Get involved

Alongside recording and preserving our important heritage, we widen access to archaeology and empower people to discover, care for and experience our shared history.

If you have a passion for the past there are a number of ways you can support community archaeology and archaeological research projects.



# Support us

If you would like to find out more about becoming a MOLA supporter, please get in touch:

[shaworth@mola.org.uk](mailto:shaworth@mola.org.uk) +44(0)20 7410 2219

[www.mola.org.uk/support-us](http://www.mola.org.uk/support-us)



The generous support of our MOLA Patrons opens doors for all ages to access new knowledge through our Research and Engagement Programme, and our community projects.



Our Ambassadors are influential leaders in their fields who raise awareness for our Research and Engagement Programme and promote the significant impact that our projects have on society.



Becoming a Supporting Partner is an exciting way for your business to get involved with MOLA's Research and Engagement Programme, at the same time realising your important CSR objectives.

