Chester Archaeological Society

Registered Charity No 1068062



Next Lecture

A Bronze Age copper bonanza? The Great Orme mine in North Wales Dr Alan Williams, University of Liverpool

Saturday January 12th 2019 @ 2:30pm, Grosvenor Museum, Chester.

Admission to lectures is free to members of the Society. Visitors are welcome on payment of an admission fee, normally £4.00. Students free entry with valid student card (except Newstead lecture)

Please take your seats at least five minutes before a lecture is scheduled to start so that meetings can begin on time

The Great Orme Bronze Age copper mine in North Wales is one of the largest in Europe but its size was attributed to small-scale part-time working over nearly a millennium based on claims it only produced an unimportant low impurity type of copper. However, new interdisciplinary research, has provided evidence that Great Orme produced Britain's first mining boom c.1600 to 1400 BC probably involving a full-time mining community with metal reaching from Brittany to Sweden. This suggests greater integration into European Bronze Age trading systems than had previously been suspected and a more complex interaction of communities.

