**ART AND ARTIFACT**

Welcome to Corner Cottage

Why not just take photographs? Visualisation and 3D imaging have transformed our methods of exploration. The camera records, stores, and simplifies so many useful facts in a exciting way. However investigation is not just about technique and technologies.

What the human eye can do is select and link subtle variations in shapes, textures, tones, colours, ideas and imagination in hundreds of different ways. Hand and eye used together have created highly detailed measured drawings, imaginative group and personal journeys and big screen cartoons. This has always been of great value to the archaeologist for recording, promoting and imagining.

By using both methods today it is now possible to obtain a more total interpretation of archaeology, or at least to try.

We should be aware of and use all these methods. Articles in the latest archaeology magazines certainly support this approach.

Useful and decorative materials did exist centuries before the Roman invasions, sometimes in large quantities, and there were good trade routes as far as India and possibly beyond. Travel could be very very slow if you were not on a main route. The latest thinking is that waterways and sea travel were used much more than we realised.

How or whether the materials were used, might have depended on the capacity to barter, the hierarchy of the group and the value of precious metals to reinforce status, and whether your tribe or society placed value on new technologies. Recycling then as now was a necessity for ideas, designs and technical innovations to develop.

My work explores landscapes and material culture including ‘small finds’

The small models are ‘thought provoking’ 3D material maps. Loosely based on archaeology methods, qualities of materials, and new technologies such as 3D mapping. Carefully researched, and sometimes humorous. Collages and models are for sale.

The Portable Antiquities Scheme was started in 1996 when the Treasury Act was passed which replaced the medieval law of ‘Treasure Trove’ in England and Wales, but not Scotland. PAS records ‘finds’ made by the public, including detectorists. Small archaeology items which might have been lost or removed from context are now recorded. It is based at the British Museum.

Kitchen

1 Froggatt Edge ancient tracks.

2 Sheffield. Autumn from Houndkirk Road.

3 Towards Robin Hood's Stride, Derbyshire.

4 Barbrook, Totley Moor- entry to the stone landscape.

5 Small oak, near Carl Wark.

6 Higger Tor, snowscape.

7 Carl Wark, hidden Hillfort

8 Combes Moss Hillfort near Buxton.

Sitting Room

9 Brigantes at Stanwick, North Yorkshire. Ramparts at dawn and dusk.

Examples of chariot gear, bits, terrets and linchpins for securing

Wheels. Bronze Horse Mask 10cms high, decoration from a wooden

bucket. It has characteristic Celtic features of lentoid eyes and

moustache. Hoard found at nearby Melsonby.

Studio

10 ‘Theatre of Fire’, furnace and some Romano-British brooches.

11 Lava fields Iceland 2014

12 ‘ the boar and the pony’. Work in progress, researching native British

coins.

13 Carnyx, Celtic war horn, an original head from Deskford, Scotland

Dated 75 AD- 200 AD. Section from the almost pure silver Gundestrup

Cauldron ( for ceremonial drinking), now in the National Museum of

Denmark, showing continental style Carnyx being blown in battle.

As with modern art today, designs would be made to be read from a

distance. The Carnyx had a movable jaw and red tongue which

vibrated when blown in a battle situation, and made a terrifying noise.

A special drinking vessel would be admired and envied for its

craftsmanship and symbolism, but would be seen in detail at very

close quarters.

14 Whirlow. Dig site 2016. Collage on Italian canvas using Japanese

papers and mixed media. (see sketchbook studies)

15 Some Romano- British brooches including the large Aesica type found

at Great Chesters, Hadrian’s Wall. Also type fabrics from the Iron Age,

such as Soay sheeps wool. Weaving techniques found at Hallstatt in

Austria, traces on bog bodies and artefacts.

16 Whirlow, ancient track, Fenney Lane.

17 ‘ Iron Age selfies’. At the British Museum Exhibition of Celtic Art, some

people were struggling to see details on cast finely engraved metal

faces, some less than 1 cm. Even with glasses and a provided lense.

One can only guess at the age of the metal craftsmen and women. Life

expectancy would be short. Perhaps this tells us more about the ages

the present day viewers! The examples are from handles on drinking

vessels and brooches. Humour is seen in the reverse faces on thin

sheet gold.

18 Examples of recycling from the Snettisham hoard found in Norfolk.

Finished pieces and metal blanks in various metals. Also revealed is

the structure of some of the larger torcs.

19 The Dinnington Torc. Found in Scratta Wood Iron Age Settlement near

Worksop, South Yorkshire. Restored and can be seen in Weston Park

Museum, Sheffield. This is a rare beaded type. Other examples are

another beaded torc from Lochar Moss and bronze collar from Stichill

both on the Scottish Borders.

20 The Dragonesque Brooch. Featuring some of the variations found in the

type, and enamelling.

21 ‘Minoan pin chain’ Crete.

22 Large stone with lichen. Bronze Age maps? St Agnes, Scilly Isles.

Models

1 Air movement

2 Earth, Bronze Age copper mining, Alderley Edge, Cheshire.

3 Crucible and fire.

4 Bronze forms.

5 Bronze animal. Carnyx.

6 Boundaries and tracks.

7 Iron Age beads. Recycling glass.

8 Snettisham. Recycling metal torcs.

9 Dragons’ nest. Dragonesque Brooch

10 Dragon shadows.

11 Trapped dragon.

12 Shrine offering, Roman site Nornour, Scilly Isles.

13 Leopard Brooch. Same site.

14 Amphora, wreck site off Sicily.