



Neolithic Studies Group Spring Meeting

Stonehenge and Avebury

9th – 11th May 2025

This year's Spring Meeting will mark our return to two classic Neolithic landscapes in the south of England, around Stonehenge and Avebury, the first time we have visited either since 2012. Our understanding of both henge monuments, and the wider landscapes, has changed radically since then. This is also an opportunity to celebrate the huge impact that the late Professor Tim Darvill had both on the NSG, but also on the study of Stonehenge, one of the sites that he is most associated with.

The weekend will begin with introductory talks on evening of Friday 9th May, followed by dinner, in Salisbury. On Saturday 10th we will spend the day in the Stonehenge landscape, culminating in more talks in the evening in the visitor centre, with the day ending with access to Stonehenge itself at dusk. The following day we'll spent time in and around Avebury, and for those who are able to stay after lunch, we'll visit two long barrows, one Neolithic (West Kennet), and one modern (All Cannings The Long Barrow).

Most of the sites we will visit are easily accessible on foot on a variety of surfaces including tarmac, grass and rough tracks so a reasonable level of fitness will be required. While we have built in toilet and refreshment breaks, at times we will be out and about for 2-3 hours without any formal places to sit down other than the ground! The weather might also change very quickly, so be prepared for all eventualities and bring your walking boots, gloves and waterproofs as well as sun block and sunglasses.

Our base will be **Salisbury** and in the tradition of the NSG, we ask participants to make their own arrangements in terms of travel and accommodation. A fee will be charged to cover some costs. And due to the high demand that is expected for this trip, for which we are strictly limited to 30 participants, places will be prioritised for anyone who has attended any of our post-Covid Spring fieldtrips (from 2021 onwards). The cost for attending will be **£25** per person, covering cost of room hire on Friday evening and pizza on Saturday.

Please use the booking form attached and return by post or email by **Friday 28th March 2025**. There is a wide range of accommodation options available in Salisbury including hotels, guesthouses and self-catering cottages. It is also easy to reach by car, train and bus. If not travelling by car, please ensure you stay within easy walking distance of the town centre where the venue for the Friday evening events is situated.

Seren Griffiths & Kenny Brophy (Seren.Griffiths@mmu.ac.uk / kenny.brophy@glasgow.ac.uk) with thanks to Emma Watson, Heather Sebire & Jennifer Wexler

Provisional programme

FRIDAY 9th MAY

- 5-7pm Welcome and Introductory talk by **Matt Leivers** at St John Suites, central Salisbury (<https://app.worklib.io/en/workspace/4525897>)
- 730pm Dinner at the White Hart Hotel, Salisbury - there will be a set menu. Order and pay hotel in advance. Information provided after booking. Or make your own dinner arrangements.

SATURDAY 10th MAY

- 1030am Meet at the Stonehenge Visitor Centre car park
- 1030am-1pm Walk in the Stonehenge landscape part 1 including Stonehenge cursus, Durrington Walls and Woodhenge
- 1-2pm Lunch stop – we will take a break near the Stonehenge Inn where you can use the facilities, and either have refreshments there, or bring your own packed lunch
- 2-4pm Walk in the Stonehenge landscape part 2 including King's Barrows and a walk up the Stonehenge avenue
- 4pm Free time in Stonehenge visitor centre
- 530pm Talks in the Education Suite from **Amanda Chadburn**, Stonehenge visitor centre, followed by pizza
- 8-9pm Access to Stonehenge

SUNDAY 11th MAY

- 1030am Meet at Avebury
- 1030am-1230pm Walk in the Avebury landscape, Avebury henge, stone circles etc.
- 1230pm Lunch (Red Lion or other local café, or bring own packed lunch) and it is at this point of the weekend that participants may wish to disperse
- 2-3pm All Cannings The Long Barrow columbarium (<https://www.thelongbarrow.com/>)
- 330pm Silbury Hill and West Kennet

NB All site visits are subject to change and are dependent on timing constraints and weather. Additional sites may be added if time permits.



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Booking Form

Name:

Email address:

Mobile number: (email will be the main means of contact)

If booking more than one place, please give additional names NB due to restrictions on numbers we may not be able to accommodate partners on the Stonehenge visit unless they are NSG mailing list members!!

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When did you last attend a NSG Spring meeting?

Are you planning on bringing a car? YES / NO / NOT SURE (delete as applicable)

Friday night dinner: YES / NO

Payment Method: Cash sum of £25 to be paid on arrival, no need for pre-payment

Photographic permission: I give permission to the Neolithic Studies Group for my photograph or video image to be used in the local and national media or other promotional material for which it may be suitable. This use extends to all publicity for the Neolithic Studies Group which may include digital reproduction for use on the internet or in social media as appropriate. Please tick the box below to consent to this.

I consent to my photograph being used as described above.

How we will use your data: Information in this form will only be used to allow us to plan the fieldtrip and communicate with you about the fieldtrip, and will not be shared with others or stored beyond the end of May 2025. This is in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and GDPR legislation. Please sign to indicate consent for us to use your data as described here.

Signed

Please email completed forms to: kenny.brophy@glasgow.ac.uk or post to Kenny Brophy, Archaeology, Molema Building, University of Glasgow, Glasgow, G12 8QQ

Completed forms must be received by Friday 28th March 2025