

Exploring the Chilterns' ancient hillforts...with lasers

12/10/2017



The view from in Ivinghoe Beacon in Hertfordshire Chris Smith / Chilterns AONB
A £695,600 National Lottery grant will uncover the Chilterns' fascinating Iron Age history.

The South East's Chiltern Hills are home to one of the densest concentration of ancient hillforts in the UK. Now, thanks to a £695,600 National Lottery grant, more is to be discovered about these intriguing historical monuments.

The Chilterns Conservation Board has been awarded funding for the Beacons of the Past – Hillforts of the Chilterns Landscape project. For the first time ever, the whole of the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is to be surveyed from the sky using LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) technology which, using aircraft-mounted lasers, will uncover hidden archaeological features.

Hillforts are evidence of thousands of years of human habitation in the Chilterns AONB. Twenty two structures are scattered across the area's hills and valleys, including well-known landmarks such as Ivinghoe Beacon in Tring, as well as hidden gems nestled in woodland. Some might even remain to be discovered.

[quote=Stuart McLeod, Head of HLF South East]"Thanks to National Lottery players, the Beacons of the Past project will uncover more of the Chilterns' Iron Age history."[/quote]

Working with a wide range of partners and volunteers, the project will carry out practical conservation work and will bring the Iron Age to life through a programme of events and educational activities, allowing more people to explore their fascinating local history.

Stuart McLeod, Head of HLF South East, said: "Thanks to National Lottery players, the Beacons of the Past project will provide an exciting opportunity to uncover more of the Chilterns' Iron Age history. We were particularly impressed with plans to involve volunteers and connect a wide range of people with their local heritage, through events and educational activities."

The four-year project will be launched in 2018 and there will be plenty of opportunities to get involved. Those interested in being added to the newsletter or in volunteering should [get in touch](#).

Efallai y bydd gennych chi ddiddordeb hefyd mewn ...

Newyddion

[Bringing Hampshire's Iron Age to life](#)

Plans to change that have been unveiled by Hampshire County Council, thanks to a grant of almost £42,000 from HLF. Lying south of Andover, near the town of Stockbridge, Danebury is an extensive network of fortified sites with prehistoric burial mounds and where hundreds of thousands of Iron Age

16/08/2011

Cholesbury Camp hillfort in Buckinghamshire

Newyddion

National Lottery grant will help reveal prehistoric secrets of the Chilterns

Plans to research and celebrate Iron Age hillforts and other prehistoric features in the beautiful Chilterns landscape have received major National Lottery support.

29/01/2016

Paratoi i frwydro yn Bryn Eryr

Newyddion

Volunteers bring Iron Age building back to life

A recreated Iron Age farmstead at one of the UK's largest living museums was welcomed into the 21st century this week with its official opening at St Fagans near Cardiff.

29/07/2016