

Professor Chris Gosden has been reappointed as a Trustee of the British Museum

News story

The Secretary of State has reappointed Professor Chris Gosden as the Society of Antiquaries Trustee of the British Museum for a term of four years commencing 2 August 2022 until 1 August 2026.



Professor Chris Gosden has been at Oxford University for the last 27 years, first as a curator-lecturer at the Pitt Rivers Museum and then as Professor of European Archaeology. Professor Gosden has carried out archaeological fieldwork in Papua New Guinea, Borneo, Turkmenistan and Britain, among other places. He is currently setting up research collaborations with China and Mongolia.

While at the Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford he worked on the history of collections and their relevance to post-colonial relations and identity, including two large projects – Relational Museum Project. More recently he has run research projects on the history of the English landscape published by OUP in 2021 as English Landscapes and Identities, and on Celtic art both in Britain and in Europe including Eurasian links. He has recently published a book called The History of Magic (Penguin, 2020).

He is currently writing a book called Humans: The First Seven Million Years. He is a trustee of the Art Fund, Oxford Archaeology and the British Museum, and a fellow of a number of learned societies, including the British Academy and the Society of Antiquaries. Trustees of the British Museum are not remunerated. These reappointments have been made in accordance with the Cabinet Office's Governance Code on Public Appointments. The process is regulated by the Commissioner for Public Appointments. The Government's Governance Code requires that any significant political activity undertaken by an appointee in the last five years is declared. This is defined as including holding office, public speaking, making a recordable donation or candidature for election. Professor Gosden has declared no activity.

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