

The seminar series

# Viking Phenomena: current research on late Iron Age Scandinavia

Introducing

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Date: 13th of April 2018

Time: 10 – 12

Place: 2-0033, Engelska parken

Uppsalarummet, A30, Campus Gotland

## **"Avaldsnes: A sea-kings' seat at the Island of Kqrmt"**

The 2011–12 excavations at Avaldsnes, western Norway, are the first to explore one of the five royal manors that according to Snorri were the seats of the first King of Norway, Haraldr hárfagri. The five are all situated along the sailing route along the western Scandinavian coast, the Norðveg, indicating that the dominion of the sea route was a primary condition for attaining control of the realm. The evidence from Avaldsnes and the near vicinity indicate that control of the sea route was sought by the powerful for 2-3 millennia. The recent excavations supply the basis for writing the history of this sea-kings' seat from the Roman Iron Age until the High Middle Ages. In the paper some main themes in this history will be outlined; among them some interesting parallels and contrast between a sea-kings' manor and the seats of land kings detected elsewhere in Scandinavia.

Welcome!

Neil, John & Charlotte