

# PREHISTORIC BRITAIN!

In this brand-new series, Max the mouse explores British history. First stop, prehistory – that's the Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages to you!

The records show that the first people came to Britain over 700,000 years ago as the Ice Age came to an end. The sea levels rose and Britain became separated from the European mainland.

Making tools! →

Chip! Chip!

Hello, readers! Welcome to the world of Prehistory.

This is a world before the written word, and so our knowledge of the people and their lives is base purely on archaeology!

Don't worry! I'm sure we'll stay in touch!

Hmph.

During this period, known as the Stone Age, humans found food by hunting and gathering. They used simple but effective flint stones sharpened to hunt animals such as the woolly mammoth!

Aaaiee!

He's not the sharpest tool in the box!

They would eat the meat and wear the skins as clothes, sewing pieces together with bones needles and animal sinew.

They were having a MAMMOTH SALE!

Gasps!

Then, about 40,000 BC, people began to settle down and grow their own crops and keep animals such as sheep and cattle. These were the first farmers!

Doh! I like what you've done with the place!

Thank you! Now GET OFF MY LAND!

From about 2500BC the Britons were able to work with the metals tin and copper to create a harder metal called Bronze! This meant they could have more tools and tougher weapons.

These bronze axes are SO much better than rubbish wooden or stone ones!

SMASH! HEY!

Hooray!

During this Bronze Age, stone circles, such as Stonehenge were erected. They were huge calendars, sometimes built on old burial grounds.

Hey! Don't actually bury me here!

As well being able to create a wonderful array of weapons and tools, people could make wonderful art and jewellery with Bronze.

Check out my amazing bronze Spear-Rings!

In 800BC the Celts from Europe introduced iron and the Iron Age! These red-headed warriors brought with them stronger sharper weapons!

Hello! We're moving in!

Dw!

Fair enough!

The Celts also brought with them the idea of living in clans with tribes led by rich warrior kings.

I could get used to this!

Not so keen

Celts reigned supreme until 55BC, when suddenly the ever-expanding menace of the Roman Empire set its sights on the island!

So much for taying friends!