



CDAS Circular – January 2021

Hello Everybody and a very happy New Year to you all.

New year, new relationship with Europe, new Covid variant, new restrictions on interacting with others, new (Oxford) vaccine – what a lot to look forward to!!

Seriously though, the new restrictions are to try to get on top on the virus and the new vaccines should mean most of us will have had at least one jab by the end of April. If all goes well that should mean we may be able to emerge from hibernation in early summer. Here's hoping!

Fieldwork

Inevitably, the new restrictions will severely hamper any fieldwork, although that is perhaps not much real loss as I, for one, am not an enthusiast for freezing in a field during winter. We shall keep the opportunities under review and I shall be pressing the Fieldwork Committee for as early a start as possible. We must however be guided by 'The Rules'. Some development work, such as obtaining permission from land owners, should be possible, which could get us off to a flying start once we are released, though it is not possible to say when that might be. We must just be patient.

A couple of members visited Medmerry beach on 10 December to examine the remains of a Cromwell tank that had been revealed by the action of the waves. Not sure you will be able to reconstruct it into a working tank guys!



Talks

We do have a talk for you this month, again on-line only. Details of how to access the talk will be sent out nearer the time but for now make a note of the date. On Wednesday 27th January Professor Josh Pollard of Southampton University will be talking on 'Living with monuments: recent work on the Neolithic of the Avebury region'.

Cissbury Ring

James Sainsbury, the archaeologist associated with Worthing Museum, has prepared an excellent video visit to Cissbury Ring on behalf of the South Downs National Park. Cissbury Ring is a hillfort located above the A24 in the Findon Valley. His commentary reveals this old fortification has a much more complicated history and it is well worth watching. Get yourself a cup of tea (or glass of wine) and settle down to watch. It lasts 48 minutes. Just press Ctrl and click the mouse on the link below

[\(1\) South Downs National Park – Posts | Facebook](#)

AGM

We held our AGM on 2 December and the technology worked(!). My congratulations to you all for mastering the voting system and particular thanks to David Blagden who was the power behind the mouse who made it all happen. Well done David. The minutes being reviewed and I expect to circulate them next month.

Website

Hugh Fiske, who manages our website for us has asked for any suggestions about what we might include. If you drop me an email, I will pass the ideas on.

Roman course

David Rudling, who has lectured to CDAS in the past, is running a 10 week course about the Romans in our part of the world, which should be of interest to all you Romanists out there.

THE ROMANS IN SUSSEX, KENT & SURREY. A new Rottingdean Whiteway Centre 10 week zoom class (W23) starting on Wednesday 13th January 2021, 10.30am-12.30pm. Tutor: Dr David Rudling FSA. Course fee: £84.

We will be examining aspects of life in South-East England during the Roman period, looking at the tribal capitals of Chichester and Canterbury, as well as other nucleated settlements, villas and farmsteads. We will also explore the evidence for farming, industry and roads; and investigate the remains of the army, religion, burial practices and the end of Roman Britain. All of these topics will be examined from the perspectives of both the Romans and the indigenous population. For further details and to register please see: rwc.org.uk

Takeaway food

As you know, only takeaway food is obtainable under Tier 4 conditions. Trust the romans to have got there ahead of us! See the link below

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/55458828>

Stay safe, stay warm and above all -stay healthy

Malcolm Pheasey

Chairman CDAS