



CDAS – Chairman’s Monthly Letter – May 2016

Firstly, a reminder that membership was due to be renewed on 1st April.

Talks

On the 25th May we have our Member Evening starting at 7.30 at New Park Cinema. This will be a special event as we will be celebrating the 25th anniversary of founding of CDAS.

Following our usual format there will be three short presentations on CDAS related projects:

- Peter Murphy – The excitement of coastal monitoring at Medmerry
- Trevor Davies – A Warblington update including our prize find, the cist
- Richard Bridgland - Early results from an ongoing study into the Roman context of Warblington site.

Then I will take a quick look at the last very busy 10 years. This will be followed by the cutting of the cake by existing members who were in at the start of CDAS. We hope that everyone will then join us in the bar and partake of some cake. Non-members are welcome to join us for free.

The next Talk will be on the 28th September.

Study Days

Sat 21st May - Background to Warblington excavation. There will be a charge of £15. There is one place left; please contact Jenny Harvey via our web site if you are interested:

Member Lead Walks

Due to a knee injury David Bone has reluctantly postponed his “A ramble around Duncton, history and archaeology from a geological perspective” on 19th May . If anyone would like to lead a walk can they please contact me.

Coastal Monitoring

The weather should be quietening down so there will only be a limited number of visits until next autumn’s equinoctial gales.

Other Fieldwork Activities

Some possible options have fallen through but others are in the pipeline. Trevor Davies will get in contact with those on his list as soon as a firm opportunity arises.

Warblington Excavation – Request for Volunteers

We have not yet received the formal permissions but there is no reason to believe that they will not come through so we are starting the recruitment process.

It is proving increasingly difficult to obtain funding. If we are not successful it has been agreed by the General committee to set the daily contribution at £5 with any shortfall coming out of CDAS reserves.

The schedule will be:

- Mon 5th – set-up day - volunteers required to:
 - Baby sit delivery of loo & container
 - Trevor and Steve will supervise the excavator
 - Transport the equipment from Fishbourne store to the site
- Tues 6th to Sat 10th – normal days
- Tues 13th to Fri 16th – normal days
- Sat 17th – a normal day but focus will be on finishing off and recording
- Mon 19th – Close down day – Volunteers required to:
 - Baby sit collection of loo & storage container
 - Transport equipment and finds back to Fishbourne (leaving behind kit for turf relaying)
 - Trevor and Steve will supervise the excavator back fill
 - Replace turf – there will be three trenches so a start can be made as soon as the first is filled in.

Some of you may wish to spend some or all of your time finds processing. It is difficult to predict an appropriate size for the FP Team so we would intend to operate a small core team and call on other support as necessary.

If you would like to be involved in the project then please contact Trevor Davies trevor.davies28@btinternet.com indicating which days you would prefer and whether you want to Finds Process for all or some of your time. On some days last year we ended up with more people on site than we were happy managing so this year we may ration the allocation of places.

RSPB - Archaeology of Medmerry Beach

Peter Murphy is leading this walk on Sunday 17 July starting 1.30pm (duration 3 hours / 5 miles). Booking essential £12 per person / £9 RSPB members. If interested contact Roy Newnham, Visitor Experience Officer , Pagham Harbour and Medmerry Visitor Centre, Selsey Road, Sidlesham, West Sussex, PO20 7NE Tel 01243 641508 Mobile 07703 885322

Regards Ann Davies