

CDAS – Chairman’s Monthly Letter – February 2017

All committee members can be contacted via our web site www.CDAS.info

Chichester Council is planning to apply parking charges up until 8.0pm at their New Park car park. This would start in a few months’ time; as you can imagine protests are being made. I will keep you posted.

I need to make sure that you are aware that at the AGM it was agreed that the Membership fee for the year “April 17/March 18” will be £20

Priory Park

Those who were at our meeting on the 25th January may have been surprised next morning that I had made no mention of Priory Park the previous evening. This is because I was covered by the same restrictions as were placed on all media by Chichester Council.

As you are probably now aware a Ground Penetrating Radar Survey, a CDAS geophys survey and a small investigation trench dug by CDAS has shown that there are the footings of Roman buildings in the Park. The Council has given the go-ahead for an excavation which will be directed by James Kenny and undertaken by CDAS members. We are not asking for volunteers at this time but you may wish to note in your diary that the dig will take place for 2 weeks starting 22nd May. This timing means that the second week forms part of Chichester Roman week celebrations. We are in the early stages of planning, which is somewhat complicated by it being such a public location. I will get back to you when further information is available.

Talks

The talks take place in the cinema at New Park at 7.30; the spring schedule is shown below. Please note that the charge for non-members is now £5 as this better reflects the running costs to the society. If a visitor subsequently decides to join then this charge is refunded.

| Date | Speaker/Activity | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 22nd February 2017 | David Staveley | A Radar Survey of Roman Chichester |
| 22nd March 2017 | Guy Salkeld | Archaeology in the Ministry of Defence Estate |
| 26th April 2017 | Mark Roberts | The Forest of Arundel and the Fitzalan Earls' Deer Park at Downley, Singleton, West Sussex |
| 24th May 2017 | Members evening | |

Activities

We have brought together the various activities such as study days and member led walks under one heading.

Full details of the activities are available on the CDAS Web site. If you would like a place or further information then please contact Pauline Blagden at activities@cdas.info. Further ideas are being investigated; if you have suggestions then please contact Pauline.

Guided Walk - LIDAR around Stansted Forest - Wednesday 8 March 2017.

Start time: 14:00. Meeting Point: the entrance to Stansted on the corner of Finchdean Road, Rowlands Castle. This is about 100m east of the "Tea on the Green" café and the Castle Inn. Parking is along Finchdean Road opposite the Castle Inn or around The Green in Rowlands Castle. Leaders: Mark Seaman and Brian Tomkinson. Cost: Members £1.00, non-members £6.00 (if places are available) payable in cash on the day

David Bone - From villa to church, the building stones of Warblington - Saturday 18 March 2017

Start time: tbc, full day event - Meeting point: Fishbourne Roman Palace. In afternoon will visit Warblington Church Payment due by 4 Feb.

Guided Walk in Kingley Vale - Wednesday 5 April 2017.

Start time: 10:00. Meeting point: West Stoke Car Park, Downs Rd, Chichester PO18 9BE. Leader: Mike Kallaway. Cost: Members £1.00, non-members £6.00 (if places are available) payable in cash on the day

Saturday 22 April - Matt Pope – West Sussex landscapes and geology for the archaeologist-

A very different sort of day when we will be taking a mini bus through the local landscape to understand it in relation to human activity. Meeting point: Fishbourne Roman Palace. . Cost: Members £26.00, non-members £31.00 (if places are available).

Coastal Monitoring

Peter has prepared a spring schedule outlined below. This provides a basic framework; extra ones are arranged when the weather is particularly stormy. If you are not yet on Peter Murphy's list and would like further information then please contact him on lecture@cdas.info

| Date | Time | Location |
|---------------|------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| 10th February | 1200 | West shore of Chichester Channel opposite Dell Quay |
| 27th March | 1400 | Medmerry Breach West |
| 26th April | 1400 | Chidham |

Geophys

Three surveys are being organised for the spring:

1. Idsworth - We are looking for a Deserted Medieval Village. 13th , 14th , and 15th February

2. Petworth gardens - This is a unique opportunity to survey the gardens to the north of Petworth House. 27th and 28th February and 1st March.
3. Aldwick - In the late 18th century there was a Napoleonic barracks on the site, constructed to house soldiers who were defending the coast. 20th, 21st and 22nd March.

These are fully subscribed; please contact Trevor Davies if you are not already registered on his mailing list of possible volunteers.

Warblington Excavation

We are hoping to run the Warblington excavation this year but as always there are a number of issues that need to be resolved. If we go ahead it will run for 2 weeks starting on 4th September.

Ann Davies
CDAS Chairman