



## Chairman's Introduction

Hello everyone, welcome to the November Newsletter. We had an interesting talk from Greg Campbell in October which certainly left us with food for thought in terms of what can be achievable with regard to sieving in our fieldwork strategies. Greg's talk focused on the findings from the Fishbourne archive of shellfish remains. What it highlighted was that unless the residents of Fishbourne ate very few but mainly high quality shellfish - the archive was actually a better representation of the selective bias of the finds processing at the time of excavation than it was a representation of the Roman diet. Greg's message of "sieve, sieve, sieve!" was a heartfelt plea to improve the quality of the archive records we create (whilst acknowledging this is a wide spread issue across both the professional and voluntary sectors). Greg has written a BAJR Guide (see link below) but it hammers home this point; *"Deposits now have to be wet-sieved for their shells. Sieving is more effective than hand-retrieval: collecting by hand recovers wildly differing numbers of shells from different deposits, biased towards larger shells, also biased towards the more common shell types"*. The implications of this are quite significant but we should consider carefully what is achievable and the implications on what we create as an archive. For those that missed the talk or if you just wanted further reading, Greg's guide can be read here;

[http://www.bajr.org/BAJRGuides/56\\_Shells/56\\_ArchShellGuidance.pdf](http://www.bajr.org/BAJRGuides/56_Shells/56_ArchShellGuidance.pdf)

There's not much else to update you on this month and I'll need to be preparing my report for the AGM (details below)

## Talks and Lectures Schedule

### The New Park, Chichester 2024

**Wed Nov 27<sup>th</sup>: Dr Miles Russell Chichester District: archaeological evidence for an early Roman client kingdom** Dr Miles Russell, University of Bournemouth, where he is Principal Academic in Prehistoric and Roman Archaeology and Director of Fieldwork in the Department of Archaeology and Anthropology. Miles graduated from the Institute of Archaeology, University College London in 1988 and worked as a Field Officer for the UCL Field Archaeology Unit and then as a Project Manager for the Oxford Archaeological Unit, joining Bournemouth University in 1993. He has conducted fieldwork across the UK as well as in Germany, Sicily and Russia. He is currently director of the departmental training excavation, director of Regnum and co-director of the Durotriges Project (the latter two investigating the transition from the Iron Age to Roman period across SE and SW Britain). Miles grew up in Sussex and has also researched the pioneering work on flint mines undertaken by local amateur, John Pull. He gained his doctorate, on Neolithic monumental architecture, in 2000 and was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London in 2006.

**4<sup>th</sup> December CDAS AGM** – St. Nicholas Hall, Brooks Lane, Bosham, PO18 8LA

**7:00 pm for a 7:30 pm start**

This year's AGM will mark the end of Trevor Davies' term as President. I'm very pleased to confirm that James Kenny has agreed to accept our invitation to become our new President. Both Trevor and James will say a few words at the AGM and there will of course be a formal



vote to approve James' appointment and given recent news in the USA I'm sure this is one new president we can all support!

As we did last year, the committee will supply a selection of savoury 'nibbles'. If you would like to bring along something yourself your contributions would be very welcome but please let us know what you intend to bring so we can avoid any duplication and help us decide what we need to provide from the committee. **To help with this, there will be a form in the bar area after the talk in November with a list of suggested food you might want to bring, if you are able to provide anything, please put your name against the items on the list or add your items if we've missed anything.**

**Assistance with Transport to AGM** ; some members have mentioned to me that it is difficult to get to the AGM, as I mentioned at the New Park talk, if you require a lift, then please let me know. No guarantees, but I will try and put you in touch with members who have kindly offered lifts from similar locations. In either case of requiring or offering a lift, please email me you details and we'll see what we can do.

All talks start at **7.30 pm** . The bar will normally be open after the lecture for drinks (hot, soft or alcoholic). The bar is a cash free bar, so, payment by card only.

## Activities

**Tuesday 19th November 2024;** Visit to War Dyke at Whiteways Led by William Foot.

Just announced.....

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2024;** Tour of West Sussex Record Office, Chichester led by Vicky Evans, Search room Archivist, West Sussex Record Office

**Meeting Point:** West Sussex Record Office, 3 Orchard Street, Chichester, PO19 1DD

**Duration:** 1.5-2 hours starting at 11am

**Cost** £6 Members, £11 Non-members, £2.40 Student Members

The visit includes a tour of the building and a small document display in the Searchroom. It's an opportunity to see behind-the-scenes. Please note it will be mostly standing/walking.

There are 6 visitor car parking spaces that can be reserved in advance for a cost of £4.50 per space (covers half a day). There is also a disabled parking space that can be reserved too and there is a lift in the building.

**If you wish to reserve a parking space email [activities@cdas.info](mailto:activities@cdas.info)**

**Please see the [Activities Page](#) on our website for the latest details and booking information.**

## Fieldwork

My thanks to Mike Kallaway and Ann Davies for the Fieldwork update;



### **Priory Park Archaeology Project**

James Kenny has obtained permission & funding from CDC to investigate further the Norman wall. The first step in the investigation will be a Ground Penetrating Radar survey that should give an indication of the extent of the structure. More on this in future newsletters

### **Coastal Monitoring – Medmerry**

Medmerry East was visited 17th October. A new structure was recorded and a further visit is planned for when the tides are suitable.

### **Thorney Island Condition Assessment Programme**

CDAS is to undertake vegetation clearance on three sites on 28th November.

### **Kingley Vale NNR – Assessment of Possible Flints Mines**

The site was visited 18th October and an area identified for investigation. Next step is to prepare a proposal for Heritage England putting the project into its wider context and outlining the proposed approach. If approval is obtained then CDAS will conduct a fingertip search and possibly a small partial excavation to establish if there are any signs of flint working.

### **Archive & Document Storage Project**

The archive has developed over many years. Some reports are only held as paper and not all reports were logged on the HER. A review is underway to clarify the position and where possible to obtain digital copies if held elsewhere.

### **Warblington Roman Villa Estate - Final report**

CDAS worked on the site for about 10 years and this is reflected in the length of the final report currently 121 pages. David Rudling has kindly agreed to review the document prior to publication.

## **CDAS 100 Club**

Don't forget the CDAS 100 Club is a great way for you to support us.

Join the 100 Club by giving £2 a month (or £24 annually) to CDAS. This buys you one membership number which is included in the monthly draw. All participants must be over 16 and a member of CDAS.

The draw will take place each month at a CDAS meeting. Winnings will be paid to you by bank transfer.

The prize money will be 35% of the membership fee taken that month. The remaining 65% goes to CDAS to help fund equipment, resources and opportunities for members.

## **Membership Update /Member Mojo**

No update since October Newsletter



## CDAS Whatsapp Discussion forum

I'm conscious social media isn't for everyone and our formal communications lines will continue to be via email and this Newsletter. However, we already have a presence on Facebook, Instagram and X (formerly Twitter) and these give us a good opportunity with interacting with the wider archaeological community and wider public with an interest in archaeology. We don't really have a social media forum for discussion /communication between members and therefore I propose to set up a Whatsapp Group to provide an additional communication channel for internal discussion and/or appeal for assistance (e.g. appealing for transport assistance to meetings /AGM, see above).

Participation will be entirely voluntary, if you choose not to join, you'll not be missing any formal communications but of course if you want to join in the debate, all will be welcome. The Group will be a closed group to members. I was inspired to set this up when I discovered my 91 year old mother was in a Whatsapp group with my 99 year old uncle!

## Have you Seen?

If you have found a particularly interesting or useful website that you think Members might not have seen, then please feel free to forward to me and I'll include here. A lot of links are already included on our main website;

<https://www.cdas.info/Links.html>

Just a few links for you this month all related to talks and webinars by other organisations;

After my note on Hampshire Museums last month, it's good to see some good new (for now) further afield;

<https://www.peterboroughtoday.co.uk/news/people/peterborough-museum-and-flag-fen-saved>

We all knew this right?

<https://www.yorkpress.co.uk/news/24692630.archaeology-prescription-helps-people-heal-york/>

Thanks for taking the time to read the – any ideas for future inclusion please let me know.

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**Dickie**

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