



Chairman's Introduction

Welcome to the October 2023 Newsletter. It was good to get back to some level of normality for me and in September we welcomed Simon Stevens for his talk "Working with Children and Animals – The Stiances Archaeological Project". For those of you that weren't able to attend Simon already has a recording of this talk available via the ASE Youtube channel.

The online version of Simon's talk can be found here;

[The Stiances Archaeological Project | Simon Stevens](#)

...though Simon does warn, that if you attended his talk at New Park, there may be some of the same jokes!

The Project is an ongoing community project allowing primary school pupils the chance to take part in an archaeological 'dig' close to home. The Stiances Archaeology Project WON the Youth Engagement Project of the Year award at the CBA Community Archaeology Awards in 2022!

Here's an article about the CBA Community Awards too;

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeology-south-east/news/2022/jul/stiances-archaeology-project-wins-youth-engagement-project-year!>

This month we took the General Committee 'on the road' and had our monthly meeting at The Richmond Arms in West Ashling. For those that don't know, The Richmond Arms is run by our good friend Dom Escott. After the meeting we were joined by some of our Fieldwork Committee for an extended get together. As a trial event, this worked really well, we'll definitely do this again and I'll extend the wider invite to

members to come and socialise with Committee members. I don't know about you but find the bar at New Park all a bit rushed so a further opportunity to discuss all things archaeology (and much more) is always welcome.

Many of you may already be members but Sussex Past have a series of online talks (with some duplication of our talks), these are available to book for via their ticketing website at a fee of £5 for non members;

[What's on in Sussex - Sussex Past](#)

Talks and Lectures Schedule

The New Park, Chichester

2023

Oct 25th – David Bone - "Roman building stone; re-use in Chichester and locating the Quarry" – David recently delivered a version of this talk to the BAA Conference and it was very well received.

David will be well known to many CDAS members. He has been studying geology in West Sussex for over 50 years, with special interest in historic building stones for 30 years. He has numerous projects that link his interest in geology, archaeology, and history. Many of these have been published. He frequently leads guided walks and gives talks, as well as selling second-hand geology books.

*(note; Jaime Kaminski - Bronze Age finds from Chichester and Sussex will be **rescheduled** due to Jaime's being out of the country.*

Nov 22nd – Jane Clark, (Finds Liaison Officer Sussex) - Recording Our Past Together' with the Portable Antiquities Scheme - an update on local finds

Dec 6th AGM – 7:00 to 9:00 pm

Last year we supplied a selection of savouries and nibbles. As a result of feedback from some members the 'bring



your own' format was missed whilst others much enjoyed the selection of food provided. As a result this year we will have a mix of savouries and nibbles provided by the committee but we will also have a selection of goodies provided by members. We'll set something up nearer the time to allow you to let us know what you might want to bring along so we don't end up with 15 cheesecakes !

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

Activities

Full details are on the website here <http://www.cdas.info/Activities.html>

At the time of going to press we have no firm dates to share but I know Ros has a number of activities she is working on so we'll let you know in due course as the dates get confirmed.

As mentioned in the last Newsletter Rob Symmons, Curator had Fishbourne Roman Palace has contacted us about an art workshop being hosted at Fishbourne on the 28th Oct. The idea is that folk spend the day thinking about the animals that would have been at the Palace and their relationship with the human inhabitants, and then design and paint (watercolour, gouache and gold pigment) a page in the style of a medieval bestiary. The day is led by a couple of really well respected natural history artists.

More importantly, it's a chance to meet the project team and learn first-hand some of the results of the project that relate to Fishbourne (there are some REALLY amazing stories coming out of the work. It

will also include artefact handling, talks and tours.

A nominal £5 fee includes all materials AND entry to the Palace!

For full details see;

<https://sussexpast.co.uk/event/mo-der-n-bestiary-art-workshop/>

Fishbourne also have activities for kids during half term week, in their words; "Fishbourne Roman Palace is seeking new recruits to enlist in its Roman Army and learn what it takes to become a fully-fledged soldier".

<https://sussexpast.co.uk/event/roman-army-week/>

Fieldwork

Thanks to Mike and Ann for their input to the Fieldwork Summary

Fishbourne Store

Our finds are now back in the Fishbourne Finds store and a contract has now been agreed between CDAS and Fishbourne for long term storage. Thanks to all involved in the work to mitigate the original immediate problem, and to Sue Soames, whose meticulous organisation and labelling impressed the folk at Fishbourne and was no small part of enabling a continued relationship and utilisation of this facility

The Trundle

At the end of June (apologies for the omission of this from the previous Newsletter), we made a very extensive Magnetometry survey of the internal area of the Trundle enclosure together with a section going down the western slope. Despite various metal structures on the site, we located a number of interesting features that had not previously been recorded. A report is being prepared.



Langford Farm (Well Down Roman Villa)

Despite the hot weather we had a very successful excavation of the Well Down Villa from 25th August to 11th Sept. We exposed the Northern end of the Villa with a clear view of the walls and rooms. We hope to be able to return to the site in future years.



Photo: CDAS Facebook page, Credit: original photographer

Old Idsworth Gardens

We completed a Magnetometry Survey of the gardens and area we had covered using Resistivity a few years ago. We had hope to find evidence of a possible medieval settlement but none was found.

Goodwood Estate – Seeley Copse

We have conducted a Magnetometry survey starting on 9th October covering an area South of where we have surveyed previously. We have also excavated two trial trenches covering features detected during previous surveys.

Walk round Chichester on 16th September (led by James Kenny)

This was a repeat of the walk in June and was a great success and covered half the total route. The second part will be scheduled for 2024.

Chichester YAC (SC)

Chichester YAC visited the Well Down Villa site under the supervision of Sam and Steve, another good example of

collaboration between CDAS and CYAC whilst keeping appropriate boundaries of governance and responsibility.

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 this month

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 that have caught my attention this month;

Always good to find free to access journals, I came across this ; Volumes 1-31 of the Bulletin of the Institute of Archaeology are now available online as an open access journal through JSTOR and the UCL Library Catalogue.

[Volumes 1-31 of the Bulletin of the Institute of Archaeology](#)



Everybody loves a facial reconstruction don't they? This article was on the BBC News Website;

[Trumpington burial: Teenage Anglo-Saxon girl's face revealed](#)

and lastly, an interesting piece on Scottish Neolithic first farmers...and Neil Oliver has nothing to do with it!

[Scotland's first farmers: new insights into early farming practices in North-west Europe](#)

Finally, Bournemouth University have this interesting online lecture scheduled for 31 October, details in the link;

[seventh-pitt-rivers-lecture-science-early-farming](#)

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

Dickie

chairman@cdas.info