



## Chairman's Introduction

Welcome to the August CDAS Newsletter. I hope you are all enjoying your holidays, and managing to stay well in the heatwave(s). The Newsletter this month reflects a quiet period and is as a result quite light on content but still contains some important messages.

## Bartington Magnetometer Purchase

Firstly, I must report some disappointing news. Our bid for Heritage Lottery Fund funding for a Bartington Magnetometer has been unsuccessful. Despite all our efforts to make sure our Constitution was not a blocker, the criteria around public inclusion are difficult, if not impossible for us to fulfil when our bid is primarily for capital (equipment) outlay. We had hoped some creative wording around the resultant input to the heritage knowledge and interpretation would encourage public inclusion but the steer from the HLF was that that did not meet their criteria.

As a result of this and to ensure our program of fieldwork can continue the Fieldwork Committee requested that we go ahead and purchase the Bartington out of CDAS reserves. This was put to the General Committee yesterday and this was agreed.

Anyone who is familiar with Liss Archaeology's presence on Social Media will be aware that they are very pleased to be showing off their recently purchased kit. This was quite cruel in its timing but well done them. I understand their purchase was supported by Fund raising.

At committee we did discuss going down the same route but we felt this would limit our capabilities in providing fieldwork opportunities for members in the immediate future, both in terms of supporting prospective excavation but also reflecting the demographic of our membership, Geophysics is an activity that can be more inclusive allowing wider involvement of members (if not the public as the HLF required).

The outright purchase of the Bartington leaves dips into a substantial amount of our reserves and so we are taking the unusual step of asking for donations to help support our future program of work and make best use of the Bartington Magnetometer when we take delivery. I know we are in uncertain times and we all face significant challenges with the cost of living increases. However, **if you are able** and would like to make an additional donation to CDAS funds over and above your annual subscriptions there is a letter accompanying this Newsletter explaining more and how you can support us.



In the meantime here are some photos of us making use of the kit we borrowed from Canterbury Christ Church Uni (no longer available to us)



## Getting Involved

As I've previously mentioned, at this year's AGM we again have a number of committee members who will have come to the end of their tenure and will be seeking new recruits to the committee and we are beginning to formulate a view of potential candidates (some of whom are also actually willing!). There is time yet to put yourselves forward should you wish. In addition to committee membership, if you feel you have skills or experience that you would be prepared to offer to help in any way, please do get in touch.

## Talks and Lectures Schedule

The New Park talks remain in recess over the summer period. When we resume, I am really pleased to confirm that **Ann and Sam Joy will be re-instating the Raffle**. They have some prizes lined up but will gladly take donations on the night. For those of you who are new to CDAS and as a reminder to how this works. Please buy your strips of tickets on arrival before the talk. We'll then draw the winning tickets after the talk before moving to the bar. We try and keep the draw process as quick as possible.

**Note;** *All Subject to change – we will continue to try and provide a broad selection of talks whilst respecting our invited speakers constraints and of course our members.*

We kick off again on September 28

**September 28th – Mike Allen - Cerne Abbas – *Playing with Giant Ideas: new evidence from excavations at the Cerne Abbas Giant, Dorset***

Mike Allen: "This Giant or 'Rude man of Dorset', is one of the well-known chalk figures ... yet archaeologists and historians have been arguing about his date and origin for centuries! The National Trust directed excavations in 2020 in an attempt to date the Giant and reveal the results to the village on the anniversary of their centennial anniversary of their ownership. Previous other intriguing attempts (by myself) had failed. As the archaeological scientist and geoarchaeologist for the project I will take you through our journey from excavation to his date and other conundrums (being analysed at present and may be resolved by the time of the lecture!)"

(as also recently featured on Digging For Britain)

**October 26th – Dr Judie English - Reconstructing the Anglo-Saxon and early Medieval Landscape using Place-names and maps**

**November 23<sup>rd</sup> – David Rudling – Roman Sussex**

**December 6<sup>th</sup> – AGM** (note date, due to availability of the Hall)

### 2023

**January 25<sup>th</sup> – Trevor Creighton - 'Recreating the Sparsholt Mosaic at Butser Ancient Farm – shedding light on mosaic making in Roman**

**February 22<sup>nd</sup> – Matt Pope - The Future of Archaeology in Sussex**

**March 23<sup>rd</sup> – Hayley Nicholls - Excavation by ASE in Chichester**

**April 26<sup>th</sup> – Elke Raeaman - Finds and Artefacts from ASE excavations in Chichester**

(provisional title)



**May 24th** Member's evening

**Sept 27<sup>th</sup>** – Simon Stevens Working with Children and Animals–The Stiances  
Archaeological Project

**Oct 25<sup>th</sup>** – **Jaime Kaminski** - Bronze Age finds from Chichester and Sussex (provisional)

**Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>** – **Jane Evans**, Finds Liaison Officer Sussex - Recording our Past – recent finds from the Portable Antiquities Scheme in Sussex (provisional)

**Dec** – date tbc AGM

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

Please book your place in advance by emailing **Ros Cheetham** at [activities@cdas.info](mailto:activities@cdas.info)

### Fishbourne Roman Palace Volunteering

This is a really exciting opportunity for CDAS members – We were contacted by Fishbourne Roman Palace to ask if there are any CDAS members who would like to volunteer their help with the museum's archaeological collections at the Palace on a half or full day per week. The collections are not just from Fishbourne, but also the Novium and surrounding Chichester district. There are various projects and opportunities which include preserving metal objects, cataloguing and re-boxing finds, data entry and photography of small finds.

To get the ball rolling, 25 CDAS members were given an interesting tour of the artefact collections at Fishbourne Roman palace in July. Amy Roberts, Collections Officer for the Novium was overwhelmed by our volunteer support and we look forward to helping her with the conservation projects in the autumn.

If you missed the tour and would still like to volunteer, you can download the form at <https://www.thenovium.org/volunteer>

### Day school - The Archaeology of Death and Commemoration

*(See separate correspondence from Ros due shortly, this activity is under review due to numbers. The cafe will be open and Ros is hopeful of the possibility of discounted entrance fees. Details including how to pay will be included in Ros's email she will issue to members shortly – if you are interested, please register asap)*

Date - Saturday 3rd September 2022

Location - Rudkin Room at **Fishbourne Roman Palace**.

Cost - £25

Simon Stevens

Senior Archaeologist, Archaeology South-East (a division of UCL Centre for Applied Archaeology)



### **The Archaeology of Death and Commemoration**

*The study of human remains can be one of the most exciting and rewarding elements of archaeology, providing direct evidence of the condition (and indeed conditions) of our ancestors. Skeletal remains can harbour a variety of information ranging from gender and stature, to lifestyle and disease. In the exact opposite method to a modern doctor, the archaeologist may be able to see what was wrong with an individual and then work out the symptoms.*

*Perhaps a less recognised element of the study of death is the archaeological analysis of monuments associated with commemoration and remembrance. From Neolithic tombs to Commonwealth war grave cemeteries, attitudes to the deceased can be literally set in stone. A wander around a country churchyard can reveal a surprising array of memorials and approaches to celebrating the Date - Saturday 3rd September 2022*

### **Day school - Roman Sussex Study Day**

Date - Sunday 27th November 2022

Location - Rudkin Room, Fishbourne Roman Palace

Cost - £25

Dr David Rudling, Academic Director of the Sussex School of Archaeology

Please contact Ros Cheetham at [activities@cdas.info](mailto:activities@cdas.info) if you are interested in any activities

### **Fieldwork**

The following is a summary of other activities currently being carried out under the governance of the Fieldwork Committee (thanks to Mike for the summary, it makes my life easier pulling this Newsletter together) ;

- Old Idsworth, Main/Church Field – A limited excavation will take place between 5th and 10th September with four trial trenches. A call for volunteers has recently been issued
- Petworth North Lawn – this small investigation was undertaken as part of an NT open day. The trench and CDAS's activities generated lots of interest. Press release by the National Trust was reported in the local press
- Coastal Monitoring – a return to Medmerry is not possible until the autumn.
- Geophys surveys – a number of possible opportunities for later in the autumn are under investigation.
- Chichester YAC (Young Archaeologist Club) took part in the work at Petworth in June. Possible further opportunity at Idsworth

### **CDAS In the Community**

Another contact from Priory Park – we have been asked by a Scout Group from Portchester if we could do a talk for their Scouts some time in the Autumn. The pack I recently used for the Primary School will take some minor amendments for an older age group but I would like to make the session a little more interactive for the scouts. I'll be reaching out to Sam and Steve



to see if Chichester YAC can contribute ideas or get involved as a shared activity. If anyone has ideas for Archaeology based activities that can be carried out in a scout hall environment please get in touch.

### Membership Update /Member Mojo

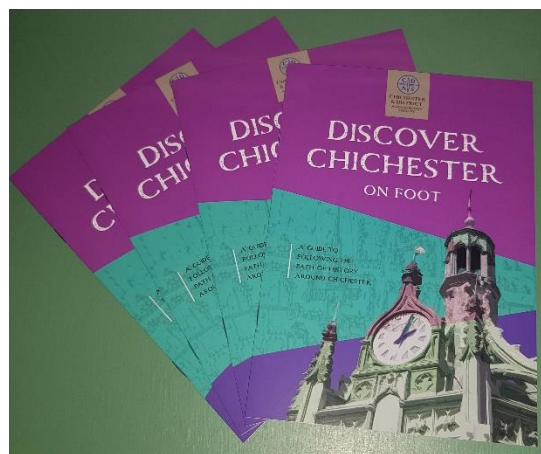
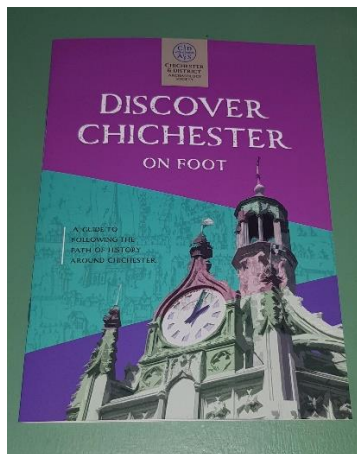
We have had a few new members from our contact in Priory Park and from my note to Facebook followers. Welcome! to anyone new to these newsletters I hope they provide you with an insight to the activities on offer, please do get involved.

### Social Media

We currently have a presence on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter to supplement our main CDAS Web page, if you haven't already, please engage in the chat and comments on these forums. It is as the name suggest, a more *social* way of interacting with other members and a good way of engaging new members and links to other local and national societies

### Discover Chichester on Foot – A new guided walk book

Our new, revamped, glossy Walking guide to Chichester is now in stock and will be available at New Park Talks. They will also be sold at the Novium and available for us to sell direct at events. The books are priced at £3.00 (£2.50 to members) so the more we sell direct the better the return for us to fund CDAS activities.



Sales of the books went well at Priory Park and The Novium also have their supply. If you would like a supply of books to sell, either at an event or direct to friends and family, please let me know and we can make appropriate arrangements.

### Skills Matrix / Skills Passport

As a reminder the idea is that CDAS might eventually have its own version of the Archaeology Skills Passport utilized in the industry on a professional basis.

As a start point and strictly **\*on a voluntary basis**, we hope to have Skills Forms for people to complete at Priory Park, either in paper form or via a Word document /email. Brian



Tomkinson, our current Membership secretary has volunteered to pull this information together, with my assistance.

The skills matrix itself will be a simple list of all the activities we undertake and you will be asked whether you consider yourself ; Novice, Intermediate or Expert in each area. We are currently trialling this within the General and Fieldwork Committees and will be issuing to the wider CDAS community shortly.

*\*to be clear this is a voluntary scheme that is intended to help both members and the society – it is not a report card ! Nor does it replace the BAJR Skills Passport, if members are pursuing an academic or professional path in Archaeology you would still need to maintain and complete the industry passport.*

## Second-Hand Book Sale

This is still generating much needed funds and is proving very popular. So much so that we need to provide some support for Brian on the night at New Park . If anyone wants to volunteer to assist Brian on the stall please let me know (or Brian at [membership@cdas.info](mailto:membership@cdas.info)) .

We had quite a large donation of Journals and books earlier this month and you will have seen I sent a separate note and 'Catalogue' of the books and journals available. This has proved very popular and has already raised c. £150 of sales. This is great to keep funds coming in. A revised Catalogue of available books will be sent to accompany this Newsletter , any local deliveries Brian and I can do in this 'closed' season will mean we have more manageable boxes of books to bring along to New Park!

If you have any unwanted or duplicate books or journals please bring them along to New Park (let me know if you have a large collection as we may need to ensure we can crate and transport for future meetings if necessary, I could also arrange collection).

## Funding CDAS

As per previous updates but now with an added need to raise funds for future projects (see above), "Easy Fundraising" is a method of generating funds for the Society. Easy Fundraising works as follows:

- Go to: [www.Easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.Easyfundraising.org.uk)
- The cause you wish to support is "Chichester and District Archaeology Society" which has already been registered.
- Create an account /download the app
- Download the donation reminder

Most sites do support Easyfundraising. Then when you go to a supporting site, a reminder will pop up. Just click on this and a donation will automatically be generated for CDAS at absolutely no cost to you!

***There are little or no changes to the following items in the Newsletter but I've left them in, for new members or in case you have not read before and as they remain pertinent***

## Fieldwork Project Managers



I am keen to maintain momentum on this item that Trevor raised last year. We have a concern that the effort of organizing Fieldwork projects falls on the shoulders of relatively few people. The need to be able to spread the load to other members might be made easier if we had documented processes, templates and a library of worked examples so as not to re-invent the wheel. This is something that I am pursuing with the General Committee to make it easier for people to assist in this area. If anyone is interested, please contact me.

## Affiliations

CDAS has affiliations with the following organisations. Where possible we share the news and activities put on by these groups including;

- CBASE monthly newsletter
- Sussex Archaeology: Sussex past & present and their Collections, when published
- Association of Roman Archaeology: ARA news
- Hampshire Field Club: Newsletter and Hampshire Studies

We (I) might sometimes miss forwarding these to members via email so if there is a particular communication you are aware of but haven't seen, please let me know and I'll check we've forwarded all that we've received.

Whilst not formally affiliated to CDAS, Chichester YAC (Young Archaeologist Club) is now formally approved and will be run by CDAS Members Sam Joy and Steve Cleverly. There are already 10 paid up youngsters. I wish them luck with their first outing on 9th July.

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...and finally, on a personal note, those of you who I have seen me over the recent weeks will have seen my Action Man scar. I really should tell more people I got it in a pub brawl but in fact I had to have a minor op. to remove a Basal Cell Carcinoma (BCC), a small procedure and all is well. In all my archaeological years, I have diligently worn my hat and applied sunscreen. In all likelihood my damage was done in my childhood and teenage years. However, the lesson learnt is well represented in our advice when joining our digs and the health and safety/ risks that you are sent before joining. Please do as Baz Luhrmann says, ladies and gentlemen of CDAS ...Wear sunscreen (and a big hat too !)

Thanks for taking the time to read the Newsletter – any ideas for future inclusion please let me know (or I'll include more of my megalithic photos from my travels !). As you may have noticed, I'm gradually re-formatting as I go, I hope you like the emerging new format newsletter.

**Dickie**

[chairman@cdas.info](mailto:chairman@cdas.info)