



CDAS – Chairman’s Monthly Letter – January 2019

Annual General Meeting

The AGM went well with a good but slightly lower attendance than last year.

The make-up of the General Committee has seen two changes. Shelagh Standen has taken over from Sue Soames as Secretary. Trevor Davies has taken over from David Rudkin as President. You can see the full list of Committee Members on our website

David Rudkin decided not to stand for re-election as President having now moved to be nearer his family in Southampton. David as well as being the Director of Fishbourne Roman Palace was a founder member of CDAS. David has made a great contribution to the development of the Society as a member, committee member and more recently as President. We have all benefited from his knowledge, experience and wise Council.

Many CDAS Members took the opportunity to thank David and wish him well for the future.

Fieldwork

Petworth

Trevor, Henry and Mike visited Martyn Burkinshaw and Tom Dommatt at Petworth to discuss the results of our geophysical surveys on the area in front of the Doric Temple. They were both very pleased with our work in particular identifying the route of an earlier path to the South of the Temple, matching the route shown on the 1897 OS Map. They now intend to mark out and expose the earlier path based on our survey results.

We all agreed that the area on the lower slope in front of the Doric Temple where we recorded many over range resistivity readings needs further investigation. We are contemplating excavating a trial trench in the area after the spring bulbs have flowered.

We also discussed the opportunity to make a survey of the playing fields bordering Tillington Road

Houghton Woods Auxiliary Unit Hideout

The Forestry Commission have approached us to make a survey and record a WW2 Auxiliary Unit Hideout in Houghton Woods. The site is gradually deteriorating and the aim is to photograph it and record it before it collapses. Mike visited the site in December and a further visit will be made by CDAS in January. Due to the possibility of bats hibernating in the site we will be supported by members of the Sussex Bat Group.

The Forestry Commission have other unrecorded sites that they may ask us to survey and record.

Warblington

A recent article in Current Archaeology mentioned that Dr Gerard Barrett of Queens University Belfast had developed a technique for radiocarbon dating Lime Mortar. We wondered if the technique could be applied to Warblington, in particular to the mortar used in constructing the two phases of the bathhouse. If successful we could establish the timeline for the construction. We approached Dr Barrett who was pleased at our interest but unfortunately stated that the technique cannot be currently applied to subsurface samples due to chemical effects on the

mortar. He is working on improving the technique and asked us to contact in about a year when he may be willing to run some samples for us.

We will contact Dr Barrett before the Warblington Dig to check progress and if appropriate, get guidance on how we should gather mortar samples.

Coastal Monitoring

We have one meeting scheduled for January at Bosham. Peter will be adding further events on a month by month basis and they will be included in future Newsletters. There is no need to contact Peter before the events, just turn up on the day.

Date	Low tide	Meeting time	Study Area and aim	Meeting place
Wednesday 30 th January	1244	1200	Bosham Channel around to Bosham Quay. In this area there are surface finds scatters defined by Jeremy Board, Anne de Potier and Pat Ferry.	Meeting place at the west end of the cul de sac of the old road opposite the house on the main road at the head of Cutmill Creek called Snow Goose. Turn north into Newells Lane off the A259 slightly east of this, and then first left. Grid ref SU 7983 0525, nearest postcode PO18 8PS. Wellingtons essential to get the best out of the walk.

Bar Staff at New Park

We rely on volunteers to run the Bar at New Park after our monthly meetings. Currently we have only 3 people who are trained to run the Bar and we desperately need more volunteers. If you are interested please can you contact Trevor Davies at president@cdas.info

Talks

You may want to put the following dates in your diary

23 rd January	Simon Stevens	How Many??? Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman Buildings at Chalkers Lane, Hurstpierpoint
27 th February	Archaeology South-East	Finds from the Chichester Sewer Expansion
27 th March	Judie English	The South Downs Cross-ridge Dyke Project
24 th April	Daryl Holter	His work as Sussex Police Heritage Crime Advisor

Non-members are welcome to attend our talks for a fee of £5. I would encourage Members to bring along their friends.

Activities

Bookings are now being taken for the following events. To reserve your place, please contact Pauline Blagden at activities@cdas.info

Flint Recognition Study Day, led by Bob and Gillian Turner

Date: Saturday 2nd March 2019

Time: tbc. This is a full day event.

Location: Fishbourne Roman Palace (Rudkin Room), Roman Way, Fishbourne, Chichester PO19 3QR. There is plenty of parking.

Cost: Members £25, non-members £30 (if places are available). Payment is due by 1st February 2019. Details of how to pay will be sent when your place is confirmed.

Outline: This study day will give you an overview of flint tools from the early Paleolithic with special emphasis on the flints you find on an excavation. The focus will be on recognition of different flints not how they were made, so even if you attended Bob's recent practical course at Butser, you will still find this study day useful and interesting. It will be a fun day with lots of hands-on things to do.

Visit to Arundel Museum

Date: Wednesday 6 March 2019

Time: 10:30 – 12:30

Location: Arundel Museum, Mill Road, Arundel BN18 9PA. There is a car park in Mill Road. A charge is payable for parking.

Outline: After coffee on arrival, there will be a talk by local author Rosemary Hagedorn on the history of Arundel. You will then have an opportunity to explore the museum with its wide-ranging local collections at your own pace and there will be a steward on hand to answer your questions.

Cost: £5.00 members, £10.00 non-members. Payment is due by 1st February 2019. Details of how to pay will be sent when your place is confirmed.

Study Day - The Origins of Coinage and Celtic and Roman coins in Britain led by David Rudling (Sussex School of Archaeology)

Date: Sunday 7 April 2019

Time: 10:30 – 16:30

Location: Location: Fishbourne Roman Palace (Rudkin Room), Roman Way, Fishbourne, Chichester PO19 3QR. There is plenty of parking.

Outline: This study day will start by examining the development of coins and primitive currencies in different parts of the world, especially in Asia Minor, Greece and Republican Rome. Thereafter participants will look in more detail at the coins and other types of currencies used in Britain during the Late Iron Age and Roman periods. By the end of the session they should be familiar with the main sequences of coin types for these periods.

Cost: Members £25, non-members £30 (if places are available). Payment is due by 1st March 2019. Details of how to pay will be sent when your place is confirmed.

Half day guided visit to Butser Ancient Farm

Date: Wednesday 15 May 2019

Time: 10:00 – 12:00

Location: Butser Ancient Farm, Charlton Lane, Charlton, Waterlooville PO8 0BG. There is plenty of parking.

Outline: Butser Ancient Farm has extended its original remit of the British Iron Age, with the construction of experimental buildings from the Neolithic, Romano-British, and Early Medieval periods.

Of particular interest at this time are the ongoing extensions of the interpretation of the Sparsholt Romano-British villa, and the construction of the second building from the Church Down 'Anglo-Saxon' site. The villa's interior is undergoing major refurbishment, with the objective of better representing – so far as our understanding permits – a 4th century Romano-British domestic villa. Included in the work is the installation of a representation of the mosaic floor from the villa's 'reception room'. We will have a detailed guided tour of the site giving an insight into the experimental archaeology done at the centre for all the periods of history represented.

Cost: Members £15, non-members £20 (if places are available). Payment is due by 1st April 2019. Details of how to pay will be sent when your place is confirmed.

Guided Walk: From quarry to church; the greensands of West Sussex led by David and Anne Bone

Date: Tuesday 25 June 2019

Start time: 10:00. This is a full day event.

Location: Meeting point to be confirmed

Outline: During this day-long excursion, we will visit several sites that illustrate the variety of building stones, informally known as 'greensand'. Locations will take in sites of rock extraction to understand the geology, including underground in the historic Marehill Sand Mines near Pulborough, and also visit two churches where the stone can be seen in use.

The provisional itinerary (subject to access permissions being obtained) is:

Amberley – river cliff and castle

Parham – sandpit and house

Marehill – sand mines. We will also stop here for a lunch as we need to use the pub car park.

Pulborough – church

Stopham – church

Participants will need to provide their own transport or arrange a car share, and have a good torch and hard hat to access the Marehill sand mines. Also, but not essential, a high visibility jacket as we need to walk up a narrow public road to get to the site. Parking will be limited at some sites.

Cost: Members £2.00, non-members £7.00. Please book in advance by contacting Pauline at activities@cdas.info and pay in cash on the day.

Other Events

Here are other events that CDAS Members might be interested in.

Worthing Archaeology Society

Talk Jan 8th - Edwin Wood - The Roman Army in Sussex

Talk Feb 12th - John Skelton 'BHAS investigations of medieval remains in Hog Croft, Ovingdean'

All talks at Worthing Library Lecture Theatre at 7.30pm

If you want to keep up with our latest news please click on the Facebook or Twitter links at the end of this letter.

Finally may I wish all CDAS Members a very happy 2019

Mike Kallaway

CDAS Chairman

29th December 2018

