

CDAS – Chairman’s Monthly Letter – March 2018

Fieldwork

February has been a busy month for Fieldwork.

A survey of Chestnut Cottage’s rear garden was made revealing some interesting features probably related to the proto-palace as well as a later probably Victorian pathway. A report has been prepared and we await feedback before agreeing the next steps.

The joint Fieldwalk with Worthing Archaeology Society at Fittleworth was very successful helped by near perfect weather. The range of flints recovered indicate that it was probably a hunting site rather than a settlement.

We made a visit to the Drovers Estate near Singleton as part Heritage and Archaeology Rangers Team (HART) program with the National Trust. The weather was appalling so we were not able to accomplish much and had to abandon the day. We plan a follow-up visit in March.

The search for the missing Auxiliary Unit Base at Kingley Vale failed in its main objective but did turn up a number of spent WW2 munitions. We are trying to narrow down the search area before returning to the site.

We plan to complete the second phase of the geophysical survey at Idsworth during the week beginning 5th March.

Please contact Trevor Davies surveying@cdas.info if you want to be on his mailing list of possible volunteers and are not already registered

We are planning to run an **Excavation Study Day on May 12th**. We ran a similar event in 2016 with a focus on Warblington covering all aspects of preparation, excavation, finds processing and site closedown. This time we are thinking of making it more general so it is relevant to both Priory Park and Warblington.

Talks

The current program of talks is listed below.

February 28th	Trevor Davies	The Roman villa at Warblington: a review after 10 years of investigation
March 28th	Edwin Wood	Archaeological finds from Sussex: Portable Antiquities Scheme finds 2016-17
April 25th	Stuart Needham	Bronze Age Barrowscapes in the Rother region
May 23rd	Members evening	

Activities

The Introduction to QGIS study day, led by Mark Seaman, Mike Kallaway and Brian Tomkinson last Saturday seems to have been very successful despite a few hitches with the projector.

We are now planning a follow-up course on “LiDAR – Downloading, manipulating and interpreting LiDAR data” to be run in the autumn.

There are still places on the following activities

Textiles: A study day led by Sue Wallis

Date: Tuesday 6 March 2018

Time: 1000-1530

Location: Eames Farm, Thorney Road, Emsworth, PO10 8DE. [Directions](#) Free parking is available. You will need to bring a packed lunch.

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

The course outline: Textiles require a huge amount of time and resources to produce. Surviving evidence of textiles and textile technology is often scanty. The significance of textile production to our ancestors is easy to overlook. An understanding of the history of textiles is fascinating and gives insights into the levels of interconnectedness of ancient societies. The study day will give an overview of the evidence for ancient textiles and an opportunity to have ‘hands on’ experience of some of the technology. The leader of the Study Day has a strongly scientific background and is currently Chairman of the Cambridgeshire Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers. She has always had an interest in textiles and has been a weaver since 2010.

To book your place email Pauline Blagden at activities@cdas.info

Guided Walk - Kingley Vale

Date: Wednesday 14 March 2018

Start time: 10:00

Meeting point: West Stoke Car Park, Downs Rd, Chichester PO18 9BE. [Directions](#)

Leader: Mike Kallaway

Cost: Members £1.00, non-members £6.00 (if places are available) payable in cash on the day. Please book your place in advance by emailing Pauline Blagden at activities@cdas.info.

Kingley Vale is a well-known National Nature reserve within the South Downs National Park. Most visitors are aware of the ancient yew tree forest, Devils Hump Bronze Age Barrows and Iron Age settlements. Less well known is Kingley Vale’s past as a military training site particularly during World War 2. During this walk we will explore a number of military sites

from the 19th Century rifle range to Auxiliary Unit WW2 hideouts. We will look at the evidence that still remains of its military use and the efforts made to clear munitions from the site after WW2. The walk will be illustrated by the use of old maps, aerial photos, LiDAR images and other documents. Other more ancient features such as field systems, settlements, enclosures and unusual barrows will also be revealed.

The walk will start and finish in West Stoke Car Park. From the Car Park to the entrance to Kingley Vale Nature Reserve is around 0.8 miles adding 1.6 miles there and back to the overall route. The full walk will take around 3.5 to 4 hours. A shorter option is possible taking about a mile out of the route. People who chose this option will have a break whilst the others take an "excursion" to see other sites. The climb from the car park to the top is around 150 metres and is quite steep in parts so appropriate footwear should be worn. There are no facilities and you are also advised to bring a packed lunch.

Flint Knapping - an opportunity to have a go

CDAS is organising an activity day at Butser led by Bob Turner on 9 June 2018. There will be a practical demonstration followed by everyone trying their skills with flint. Bob will give you a flavour of life in the Mesolithic / Neolithic showing how people lived and he will try to cover the full range of tools.

The cost is likely to be around £25- £27 for CDAS members, £30-£32 for non-members. This will include entry to Butser Ancient Farm.

If you are interested in attending please email Pauline Blagden activities@cdas.info as soon as possible.

Timber-framed buildings of the Weald, their development and dating for beginners. A Study Day led by Jeremy Clarke.

Date: Saturday 3 November 2018

Time: To be confirmed. This is a full day event.

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

Cost: Members £25, non-members £30 (if places are available). Payment is due by 10 September. Details of how to pay will be sent when your place is confirmed.

The course outline: This study day will cover terminology, how to approach dating a building, useful resources and a group practical session using site photographs and plans to try out the knowledge gained.

To book your place email Pauline Blagden at activities@cdas.info

Coastal Monitoring

The next session of Coastal Monitoring is tomorrow 27th February at 1300. We will visit Medmerry East and hopefully gather some samples for radiocarbon dating. Arrangements have been made with Bunns who own the holiday camp.

Two other sessions are planned on:-

March Thursday 29th 1300

April Friday 13th 1300

The locations for these surveys will depend on the weather.

If you are not yet on Peter's mailing list and would like to be included in future please contact him on coastal@cdas.info

Student Membership

At the recent General Committee Meeting it was decided to raise the upper age limit for Student Membership from 23 to 25

Data Protection - new General Data Protection Legislation

We wish to make members aware that new extended and enhanced Privacy /Data Protection legislation comes into force in May this year. Because CDAS complied fully with the old Data Protection Act, members will experience only minor procedural changes to their membership renewal and their participation in fieldwork and other activities. In brief, the changes are as follows:-

- Application and renewal of membership. Until now, although the majority of members have completed an application form on renewal, some members did not and we managed our way round it. It is now essential that each member must submit a completed application form on renewal.
- Even though the personal information that we collect is very basic i.e. contact details, we are now required to obtain your positive consent to collect, hold and use this information. There is therefore, a new tick-box on the application form which must be ticked to signify your consent.
- The other change affects members taking part in fieldwork, study days and other activities. Sometimes we take photos of members' participation in activities and use them for reporting purposes or for promoting CDAS as an organisation. When this has taken place in the past you have been aware of it happening. Under the new rules we have to obtain your consent. You will therefore be asked to give your consent for us to use your image as part of the normal signing-in process before an activity starts. Yes, you've guessed it, using another tick-box!
- Finally, on the application form, you will find our Privacy Notice which sets out how we treat your personal data. I would urge you to read it. You can also find it on our website.

Other Events

Here are two other events that might interest CDAS Members

Surrey Archaeological Society' Roman Studies Group is hosting a regional conference **'Shining a light on the 5th century AD in Surrey and the South-East: how did Roman Britain become Saxon England?'** which may be of interest to you.

It is being held on Saturday 5th May at Ashted Peace Memorial Hall, Ashted 9.30-17.45. Speakers include specialists from across the Roman - Saxon interface and it is hoped that this conference will lead to a programme of work to look at this period across Surrey, which hitherto has been difficult to trace in the archaeological record.

Tickets are £15 a head, including morning and afternoon refreshments and can be booked by post (using the attached form) or online via the Society website www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk.

Peopling the Heath: Petersfield Heath and its Region in Prehistory, which will be held at **Petersfield Festival Hall on Saturday 24th March 2018**.

The People of the Heath community-participation project began in 2014 and has now completed its fieldwork programme. Six seasons of excavation into Bronze Age barrows on Petersfield Heath have yielded exciting results relating to burials, monument forms and the contemporary environment. Also investigated was a rich Mesolithic site on the Heath which had not previously been examined archaeologically. Meanwhile, systematic survey work was undertaken on barrows throughout the Rother Valley to give a broader context to our focal site.

A mass of new data and ideas has thus been generated on the Mesolithic and Bronze Age populations of our region. This conference gives you the opportunity to hear not only about these local discoveries, but also about contemporary landscapes in Wessex, southern England and across the water in Holland. Themes to be covered range from thoughts on the value of the project for local communities including school children, to detailed insights into the structures of barrows, the contents of burial urns and the significance of the intriguing grave goods from the Heath, and then beyond to broader considerations of barrows, fields and environments across the Bronze Age landscape.

Specialised knowledge of prehistoric archaeology is not essential. The conference is for all who wish to learn more about early communities in their region. For more information, please visit the People of the Heath website www.peopleoftheheath.com

This conference is **free** but booking is essential to reserve a seat. Please book via our [Eventbrite page](#)

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

Mike Kallaway

CDAS Chairman

26th February 2018

