

CDAS Newsletter March 2022

Welcome to the March CDAS Newsletter.

Firstly a reminder there will be **no live stream of this month's talk**. We will however continue to try an alternative option of recording the talk and making that available via our YouTube channel (though note; this will be a recording of the Zoom Meeting and will not feature a camera view of the guest speaker). Of course, if you feel comfortable, are fully jabbed and remain symptom free it would be great to see folk coming back to New Park in person.

Reminder

The February lecture will be at 7:30 pm on Wednesday 23rd March in New Park

Talks and Lectures Schedule

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

23rd March – James Sainsbury “Recent Discoveries at Edburton – Roman and Mesolithic” – excavations in a waterlogged site near Petworth have revealed a previously unknown Roman site including Roman timbers.

27th April – to be confirmed

25th May – Member's evening – hear about some of the work the Society and individual members have been doing to explore the archaeology of the Chichester area. May's meeting is traditionally a chance for members to tell us all about archaeology they have recently been involved with – whether it's as members of the Society or your own research. It can be as short as 10 minutes and doesn't have to have a presentation or anything fancy – if you want any help or advice do ask Anne as Programme Secretary or let her know what you'd like to talk about.

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.

The arrangements will be the same as for the lectures last year;

- We will ask you to sign in as usual
- We will ask you to wear masks unless you are actually speaking or exempt or when drinking in the bar afterwards!

Activities

Please book your place in advance by emailing Ros Cheetham at activities@cdas.info

Guided Walk – Motley Copse

Mark Seaman has kindly offered to lead a guided walk near Rowlands Castle to see the remains of a motte and bailey castle, on Saturday 30th April at 10.00 am. It is described as one of the most complete and perfect of the Norman remains in Hampshire

Date: **Saturday 30th April 2022**

Start time: **10:00 am**

Meeting point: At the corner of Holt Gardens and Links Lane, Rowlands Castle, post code PO9 6BH (see below). People should park in Holt Gardens, leaving room for vehicles to pass and not obstructing any driveways. If that gets too busy, then Greatfield Way 150m to the south.

Leader: Mark Seaman

Cost: Members £1.00 (payable in cash on the day)

Non-members £6 (payable in advance by bank transfer to Chichester & District Archaeology Society, (Account 31438158, Sort code 40-17-16, Reference – Walk Motley)

Southampton Tudor House and Garden

Date: Thursday 31st March

Start time: 10:40 to 15:00

Cost: Members £18, non-members £23

A guided tour of Southampton's Tudor House and Garden, the secrets and stories of the house and the people who lived there. Begins with a tour of Southampton Old Town, its hidden past, visiting the medieval vaults, followed by a light lunch and tour of the Tudor House and Garden.

Please book your place in advance by emailing Ros Cheetham at activities@cdas.info

Guided Walk – Motley Copse, led by Mark Seaman

Date: Saturday 30th April

Start time: 10:00, 1.5 hours duration (approx. 2 miles)

Cost: Members £1.00, Non-members £6

A guided walk to the remains of a motte & bailey castle near Rowlands Castle, described as one of the most complete and perfect of the Norman remains in Hampshire. Walking boots are strongly recommended.

Please book your place in advance by emailing Ros Cheetham at activities@cdas.info

Bignor Roman Villa

Date: Saturday 21st May

Start time: 10:30

Cost: Members £12, non-members £17

A guided tour of the Roman Villa, plus free time to explore the site. Tearoom available for refreshments.

Fieldwork

The following is a summary of activities currently being carried out under the governance of the Fieldwork Committee;

Priory Park Archaeology Project

James is progressing the 2021 Excavation post-ex and reporting. A team has recently completed the Geophys (Res) of the area to the North of the Guildhall. The initial results of the Geophys (Res) on week 14th Feb indicates presence of archaeology and *if* excavation goes ahead dates will be Tuesday 24th May to Tuesday 7th June and will overlap the Novium's Roman week.

Goodwood Estate - Seeley Copse (SC)

A report has been sent to M Roberts for comment. A possible return to complete the two fields is under discussion

Old Idsworth, Main/Church Field

No response as yet from farmer re potential excavation and extra mag round church this year.

Old Idsworth Farm Barrow Cemetery (MS, SC)

A completed Report sent to farmer, the next step is to plan the rest of field

Oyster Quay – Pook Lane (MK)

Excavation planned for 1st April 2022 - necessary permissions obtained and volunteers have been identified

Coastal Monitoring (PM/MK)

Coastguard station – a report is being prepared by Pete Murphy report on archaeology and D & A Bone are undertaking desktop research. They have identified around 50 documents so far. It may be that it was abandoned following flooding; also, there may be more buildings in complex.

Medmerry fish trap Eastern side – CITiZAN have project to model layout and analyse deposits. P Marshal of HE has sent of our wood samples for CD & we have copies of CITiZAN survey data.

CDAS plan to re-visit Medmerry early Spring before birds return to breed.

Thorney Condition Assessment

Condition Assessment was held on 9th March after a 2 year gap. 17 volunteers were divided into 3 teams. Results will be published in due course.

Auxiliary Unit Hideouts

Halnaker Hideout – Survey to be scheduled for early 2022. Awaiting feedback from M Roberts
Eartham – small excavation -MK & BT visited in December. Need discussions with R Green inc. H&S implications both during excavation and reconstruction.

Hill Top Enclosures

A draft outline for this project is in progress. Some of which will be incorporated in the document that requests support form sponsors.

Langford Farm (Well Down Villa)

Possible excavation in 2023 pending landowner permission

Houghton Woods

Visits in January revealed some interesting features including burnt and worked flints, there was also sadly evidence of recent metal detectorist activity. A report prepared and sent to Forestry England. Site not really suitable for further investigation by CDAS, project closed

Archive & Document Storage Project

An assessment of the store has been carried out and paper filing brought up to date. Once electronic copies of all documents are held they will be indexed. We will re-asses role of archive in terms of who can access reports and if and how these could be made available to members

Member Mojo

You will all hopefully have seen an email from Brian Tomkinson regarding your annual membership renewal. Hopefully you have had the opportunity to renew using the new mechanism but any issue please contact Brian at membership@cdas.info

As a reminder, the main benefits of Member Mojo are:

- It simplifies the membership monitoring process, so in future it will need less time from the Membership Secretary.
- It makes the CDAS GDPR protocols more robust. Committee Members who need to do so because of their role can email the members without seeing any contact details.

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

Simon Walton is compiling his findings from the CDAS interaction survey, he gave a summary of member interactions and demographics at the last Committee meeting which we hope to soon have a full report on.

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.

Funding CDAS

As per previous updates, some members of the committee have been experimenting with the use of "Easy Fundraising" as a method of generating funds for the Society. It works as follows:

- Go to: 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 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!

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.

Skills Matrix / Skills Passport

On the wider subject of Skills, one of the ideas I have floated with the General Committee is the possibility of CDAS having its own version of the Archaeology Skills Passport utilized in the industry on a professional basis. This would serve 2 purposes ;

- i) it would be a way for members to track their skills level across a wide range of activities offered by the society, and identify activities that perhaps they were not aware of that they might want to learn or participate in on future digs /fieldwork
- ii) it would be a record of member's skills for the society to identify people with appropriate skills when scheduling the roles required in field activity. It might also surface skills that members have that we are unaware of that we could utilize within the society (of course only if members wish to offer such services)

This requires more thought and will be progressed via the General and Fieldwork Committees.

Second-Hand Book Sale

Thank you to those who have donated books and journals these are proving popular and are generating funds for the society. 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 if necessary). If anyone wants to volunteer to assist Brian on the stall please let me know (or Brian at membership@cdas.info) or on the night.

Magnetometer

To support our proposed work on the Hill Top Project we need to replace our old Mag kit. The Fieldwork committee have agreed that Bartington best meets our requirements and financial support would be sought on the strength of the Hill Top project. This has been approved by the General Committee. A number of options are being explored , primarily via the Heritage Lottery Fund but we may explore leveraging our partners including The National Trust, Heritage England, The South Downs National Park, Goodwood Estate and Sussex County Council.

Dickie

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