



CDAS – Chairman's Monthly Letter – May 2019

Fieldwork

Fieldwork has been a bit subdued of late in the run up to the Priory Park excavation.

We have continued our work with the National Trust as part of the HART programme making a final visit to the Drovers Estate earlier in the month. We now plan to continue the programme in a new area, Harting Down starting shortly.

As part of our plan to survey and record WW2 Auxiliary Unit Hideouts we made reconnaissance visits to the ones at Stansted and Earham Woods. The Stansted hideout is deteriorating rapidly confirming the need for a full survey and record. We are working on a plan and schedule to survey all the hideouts in the District, including Houghton Woods and Kingley Vale.

Priory Park

Trevor and Ann have issued schedules for Diggers, Finds Processing and Stewards. Anyone who feels that they have been left out should contact Trevor at surveying@cdas.info

The Stewards Packs are now ready and the other Publicity material well advanced.

In this year's excavation in Priory Park we will open up the trench on Monday 20th May and backfill on Tuesday 4th June. Excavation will take place between 21st May and 3rd June. The Novium's Roman Week coincides with the second week of our dig.

Warblington

Assuming the necessary permissions are given the excavation is scheduled for 9th to 23rd September inclusive.

Coastal Monitoring

We had a good session at **Medmerry West** last week. The landscape had changed significantly and we found a new barrel well but sadly the chalk lined well was reburied.

No further Coastal Monitoring sessions are planned at the moment. Peter Murphy is reviewing the future schedule and when available it will be published in the Monthly Newsletter.

CDAS was given two complimentary copies of the **Medmerry book "A view from the edge"**. If anyone would like to borrow one of the copies please let me know. It is a substantial reference work with over 500 pages, numerous illustrations and photographs and weighs 2 kilos.

Presentations from the recent Environment Agency Medmerry Conference, including one by Peter Murphy, can be viewed and downloaded at :-

<https://ea.sharefile.com/share/view/s0f10facdaa84bda9/foeeb137-f706-4dd9-aa60-75aa983ac857>

Talks

You may want to put the following date in your diary

22 nd May	Member's Evening	David Bone "A Roman Corinthian capital from Bognor Regis" Steve Cleverly "Geophysical Surveys and trial excavations at Chilgrove" Mike Kallaway and Brian Tomkinson "WW2 Auxiliary Unit Hideouts in the District"
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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

Half day guided visit to Butser Ancient Farm

Almost fully booked so if you want to go please contact Pauline immediately

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

Almost fully booked so if you want to go please contact Pauline immediately

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.

Autumn Activities

Guided Walk: a morning walk around Arundel led by John Barkshire plus opportunity to visit Arundel Museum in the afternoon

Date: Thursday 26 September 2019

Time: 10:30 – 12:30 plus afternoon visit to the Museum

Location: Meet at Arundel Museum, Mill Road, Arundel, West Sussex BN18 9PA. There is a large car park next to the Museum. You will need to pay for parking.

Cost: Members £7.00, non-members £12.00. Payment is due by 23rd August 2019. Details of how to pay will be sent when your place is confirmed.

Outline: We will start by having tea/coffee and biscuits at the Museum and meet our guide. Then we will have a walk around Arundel with a commentary on buildings of interest and visiting St Nicholas' Church and Arundel Cathedral. The walk will last about one and a half hours. There is a good choice of cafes and restaurants if you wish to buy lunch afterwards. Anyone who would like to visit – or revisit – the Museum will have the opportunity to do so in the afternoon. The Museum closes at 4pm.

Study Day – Coins Part 2: The Coins, Tokens and Jetons of England, c. AD 600-1971 led by David Rudling (Sussex School of Archaeology)

Date: Sunday 13 October 2019

Time: 10:30 – 16:30

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 15th September 2019. Details of how to pay will be sent when your place is confirmed.

Outline: Led by David Rudling, this follow on/Part 2 day school will continue examination of the development of coinage in Britain from Saxon to post-medieval times. Participants will also examine the issuing of private tokens made of pewter, lead, copper and silver, and briefly review the use of casting counters or Jetons. By the end of the session participants should be familiar with the main sequences of coin, token and jetton types for the post-Roman periods in England.

Note: It is not necessary to have attended Part 1 on 7 April to benefit from this study day.

Study Day – Medieval Towns of Sussex led by Simon Stevens (Archaeology South-East)

Date: Saturday 9th November 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 7th October 2019. Details of how to pay will be sent when your place is confirmed.

Outline: The Medieval towns of Sussex are some of the most widely archaeologically investigated settlements in the country. Recent developments in our urban centres have offered numerous opportunities to excavate the buried remains of the period c.1066 to c.1500, and place them within the context of the surviving townscapes and above-ground remains.

To reserve your place at any of the activities, please contact Pauline Blagden at activities@cdas.info

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

Membership Renewal

Subscriptions are still outstanding from a number of members and need to be paid as soon as possible if members want to continue to enjoy the benefits of being in CDAS.

Mike Kallaway

CDAS Chairman

26th April 2019

