

NASNEWS



Newsheet of the Northamptonshire Archaeological Society

SECOND SERIES NO 8

MARCH 1990

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PROGRAMME 1990-91

Programme Diary Dates: (details below)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.....7.30pm Wednesday April 18th

INTERPRETING ARCHAEOLOGY TO THE PUBLIC lecture....to follow the AGM

THE BATTLE OF NASEBY field visit.....7.30pm Thursday June 14th

ARCHAEOLOGY OF NORTH RAUNDS lecture.....7.45pm Tuesday Feb 5th 1991

It is also hoped to arrange a guided 'behind the scenes' visit to Northampton Museum as well tours of current excavations later in the year. See the next issue of NASNEWS for details.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: The AGM will take place at the Corn Market Hall, off London Road Kettering on Wednesday 18th April 1990. Members are particularly urged to attend this meeting in order to elect the following Officers, the present occupiers of these posts having indicated their intention not to seek re-election; Chairman (M Rumbold), Secretary (W Parry), Journal Editor (B Dix). All three have provided outstanding service to the Society and will be greatly missed.

In addition, two Ordinary Members of the Council are required by the Constitution to stand down, having held office for three years. These are Mrs J Johnston and Steve Young. Nominations for any of these vacancies should be submitted to the Secretary by March 28th.

INTERPRETING ARCHAEOLOGY TO THE PUBLIC: Following the AGM Melanie Whewell, Heritage Interpretation Officer with the County Archaeology Unit will talk about the ways in which the archaeology of Northamptonshire is being interpreted and presented to the public at large.

THE BATTLE OF NASEBY: A field visit led by Civil War enthusiast Glenn Foard of the County Archaeology Unit to the area of this famous battle fought on 14th June 1645. Assemble outside the Royal Oak public house (grid ref:SP687779) in the southern part of Naseby village at 7.30pm on June 14th.

ARCHAEOLOGY OF NORTH RAUNDS: Lecture by M Audouy of the Raunds Area Project summarising the results of over a decades excavations within the core of Raunds. 7.45pm Tuesday Feb. 5th 1991. Venue to be notified in the next NASNEWS.

WEST STOW OPEN DAY

Members may be interested to know that there is an open day at the famous West Stow Anglo-Saxon village near Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk on Easter Sunday 15th April. Admission will be in the region of £1.20+ for adults and 70p+ for concessions. West Stow is situated approximately 5 miles NE of Bury St Edmunds and is signposted off the A1101. For further details please telephone the Visitor Centre on 028484 718.

PEWTER 1200-1700AD

Exhibition at the Museum of London until May 1990. Free

SOUTH MIDLANDS ARCHAEOLOGY

The latest annual review from CBA Group 9 - issue No19 for 1989 - is now available. In addition to reporting work by the County Archaeology Unit in Northamptonshire during 1989, its 63 pages contain reports of other work in the adjacent counties of Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire. Price £3.50 per copy. Details from the Editor, Andrew Pike, Bucks County Museum, Church St, Aylesbury, Bucks HP20 2QP.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT INTERPRETATION PROJECTS:

Villages from the Past - A touring exhibition which tells "The Story of the Northamptonshire village". See for the first time some of the superb aerial photographs which record the development of our villages. Can you spot the grim reaper waiting to take his toll on our Medieval ancestors? The exhibition opens at Raunds library on 10th April and will tour the County for over twelve months. Venues will include Irthlingborough library 4June-2July; Rothwell library 2July-30July; Corby library 30July-24Aug; Oundle 25Aug-21Sept; Brackley library 24Sept-22Oct; Towcester library 22Oct-16Nov; Daventry Museum 16Nov-15Dec; N'ton Central library 1Feb-28Feb 1991; Wellingborough library 1Mar-30Mar 1991; Kettering Museum 1Apr-30April 1991.

Long Buckby Castle - This Norman ringwork will be officially opened to the public on Thursday 26th April at 11am by Cllr. J N Harker. Forty invited guests and over 200 local schoolchildren will be present. The Escafeld Medieval Society will be providing the entertainment in the morning and will be working with local schools in the afternoon.

For further information about these projects please contact Melanie Whewell at the Archaeology Unit, telephone N'ton 700493.

CONTRACT ARCHAEOLOGY

In line with changes to the organisation and funding of archaeology in Britain the County Archaeology Unit now operates as two distinct sections. A small Curatorial section exercises the Unit's planning and other statutory functions including the maintenance and development of the County Sites and Monuments record (SMR). The Section also operates education and heritage interpretation programmes. The Contracts Section competes for a wide range of English Heritage and developer funded contract field work. Other archaeological contract winners currently operating in the Northamptonshire include D Jackson, Oxford Archaeological Unit and the Wessex Archaeology Unit. The Central Excavation Unit of English Heritage will re-commence their excavation of Stanwick Roman villa in May.

THE WORK OF ANGELS

The Work of Angels, masterpieces of Celtic metalwork 6th-9th centuries AD. At the British Museum until 29th April. Includes the Derrynaflan Hoard, never seen before outside Ireland. Many other outstanding exhibits. Admission £2, concessions £1. Exhibition book available from the Museum bookshop price £9.95 (£12.95 elsewhere).

ON-SITE TRAINING DAYS FOR TEACHERS

Practical sessions for teachers who would like to give their pupils the opportunity of seeing archaeologists at work and of practising archaeological skills. Training sessions to be held at Stanwick Roman villa. For further details contact Rachel Shaw, Education Officer, Northamptonshire Archaeology Unit Tel. N'ton 700493\4\5.

INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY

CBA9's annual conference is entitled 'Making and moving: the region's industrial past' Venue- Rectory Cottages, Church Green, Bletchley on Saturday 5 May. Fee £5 (£4 to CBA9 members). Enquiries to Barry Horne, Beaumont, Church End, Edlesborough, Beds.

LOCAL SOCIETY MEETINGS

Middle Nene Archaeological Group: AGM and Dr J Alexander on 'The Lost Christian Kingdoms of the Middle Nile'. 8pm 18 May at the Palmer Block, Glapthorn Rd, Oundle.

Upper Nene Archaeological Soc: Fri 30 March Don Mackreth 'Town Planning and Populations: P'boro in the Early Middle Ages' St Giles Church Rooms, St Giles Terrace, Northampton 7.45pm. *Fri 27 April Dr Alec Detsicas 'Excavations at Eccles, Kent 1962-1976' Univ. Centre Barrack Rd, N'ton. 7.45pm. *Fri 26 Oct James Dyer 'Bog Burials' St Giles Church Rooms 7.45pm. * Fri 30 Nov Margaret Rylatt 'The Lunt' St Giles Church Rooms 7.45pm. * 16 June Annual Field Visit by coach to Silchester and Winchester. Cost £7.50 per head. Details from D Friendship-Taylor N'ton 870312.

NEW MEMBERS We are pleased to welcome the following new members: Mr R Hill-Smith, Draughton; Dr Karen Griffiths, N'ton; Mrs A R Ferris, Duston; Ms Carol Challand, Kettering; Miss Amanda Price, Little Houghton; S Steadman, N'ton; Mr P O'Hara, N'ton.

NASNEWS will in future be edited by Mike Shaw. (tel N'ton 700493)