

NASNEWS



Newsheet of the Northamptonshire Archaeological Society

THIRD SERIES No3

March 1991

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THE AGM

The society's AGM will be held at 7.30pm on Friday April 12th at The University Centre, Barrack Road, Northampton, before Hugh Richmond's lecture on "Anglo-Saxon Churches of Northamptonshire". If you have any proposals to put before the AGM or any nominations for membership of the NAS committee please inform the Secretary, c/o Northampton Museums, as soon as possible. Do make an effort to attend the AGM and make your voice heard and your vote count.

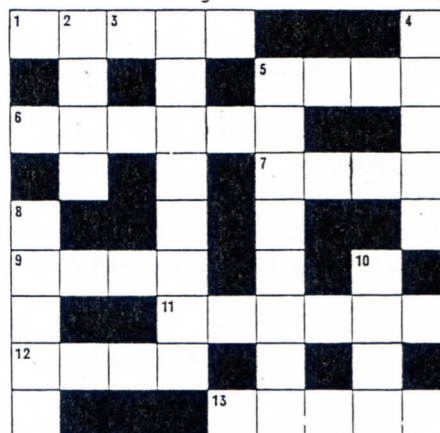
JOURNAL 22

All paid-up members of the society should now have received copies of Volume 22 of Northamptonshire Archaeology. New members will receive a copy on receipt of their subscription of £7 for year 1990/91. This represents terrific value so if you know of someone who is interested tell them to pop a cheque in the post to the Secretary now while stocks last. Backcopies of most of the earlier journals (not 1979, 1981-2) are still available at a bargain price of £2.50.

FUTURE JOURNALS, ANNUAL ROUND-UP

The description of myself as Editor on your membership card is incorrect. We are still searching for an Editor so if you know of any possible candidates please let us know. In the short term it may be possible to produce another journal using an editorial committee. We would like in the next journal to include a summary of fieldwork in the county since 1987. The annual round-up was formerly a very popular feature of the journal and it is essential to revive this, so if you or your organisation have carried out any fieldwork in the county or made any chance finds since 1987 please let us know (at the correspondence address above) by the end of June this year.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL CROSSWORD Compiled by Linda Smith for Kent Archaeological Review 1973



Across

1. Ancient name for a group of corn-sheaves.
5. Former term used for a Neolithic axe head with cutting edge at broad end.
6. Sacred monogram composed of first two letters of Christ's name.
7. City founded by twins.
9. Principal room in a castle.
11. One-armed catapult used by Romans.
12. Iron oxide, a nuisance to the archaeologist.
13. Members of an ancient Northern British tribe.

Down

2. Eighteenth century device to prevent cattle and deer straying from the field of a country house into the garden.
3. Small bronze-age field, tilled by scratch ploughs.
4. Metal known by the Romans and used for sharpening knives.
5. Tribe that lived in the Roman canton comprised of the North Midlands and Lincolnshire.
8. Fragment of broken pottery.
10. The bog-people were found in this substance.

Answers at foot of next page

FROM BARROWS TO BYPASS

Dave Windell and his excavation team have produced a booklet on their large-scale excavations at West Cotton. For those unfamiliar with the site it began as an excavation of a medieval hamlet but late Saxon and Norman manors, the site of a watermill and numerous prehistoric features were uncovered also. The booklet is available from the Northamptonshire Archaeology Unit (tel 0604 700493) at a cost of £3.95 including postage and packing.

CURRENT THINKING ON NORTH RAUNDS

Those who attended Michel Audouy's February NAS lecture were treated to a preview of his new thinking on village origins and development at North Raunds, an article on which is to be published in a summer edition of Current Archaeology. Michel has been re-examining the data from earlier excavations in the light of his own work at Burystead and Langham Road. At the same time it has been realised that the subdivisions of the Early/Middle Saxon pottery used previously in interim reports on Raunds excavations were rather optimistic. Despite much patient work David Hall's statement in 1979 that "it is not normally possible to distinguish between early and middle Saxon plain sherds in this region" remains as true to-day as it was then. The result is that much of the close dating within the Early/Middle Saxon period at Raunds has been abandoned and some of the EMS features have moved to the late Saxon period. The new synthesis presents a neat and coherent picture - order your copy of Current Archaeology today!

PLANNING AND POLICY GUIDANCE NOTE 16: ARCHAEOLOGY AND PLANNING

PPG 16 was issued in November 1990. It may sound a rather dry document but it is of supreme importance for the future of British Archaeology. It clarifies and brings together many of the policies that English Heritage has been encouraging archaeology units to follow for the past few years. It recommends that archaeological remains, whether scheduled or not, should be preserved wherever possible and if this is not possible preservation by record (ie excavation) is to be sought. Where preservation by record is necessary it is regarded as justifiable for the planning authority to ensure that the developer has made provision for the excavation and recording of the remains - in most cases this in effect means funding an excavation and the subsequent post-excavation work. In a switch from previous policy it is seen as justifiable to include not just the initial post-excavation analysis but the publication of the results also. In addition it recommends that where there is a likelihood of worthwhile archaeological remains occurring an evaluation of the archaeology of the area should be commissioned by the developer prior to the determination of the planning application. These recommendations represent both a great opportunity for the archaeologist and a danger. It should now be possible to ensure that archaeological deposits are not destroyed needlessly and where they are destroyed that there is adequate recording of them. On the other hand in circumstances where different organisations are competing with each other for a commission from a developer it is important to ensure that the quality of the work is not sacrificed to keep down the price.

ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD

Across - 1 Shock, 5 Celt, 6 Chi-Rho, 7 Rome, 9 Hall, 11 Onager, 12 Rust, 13 Picts. Down - 2 Haha, 3 Cornplot, 4 Steel, 5 Coritani, 8 Sherd, 10 Peat.



with apologies to The Guarniad