

NASNEWS



Northamptonshire
County Council
12 SEP 1996
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
HERITAGE

G. Codman

Newsheet of the Northamptonshire Archaeological Society

Subscriptions

TRANSPORTATION
12 SEP 1996
27 GUILDHALL ROAD

September 1st has rolled around again and the annual subscription is due. This remains unchanged at £10 for individuals, £12 for families, £8 for students, £15 for local associations and, £25 for institutions. Please send your subscriptions to the Membership Secretary. MR D. JACKSON, 141 WINDINGBROOK LANE, COLLINGTREE PARK, NORTHAMPTON NN4 0XF.

Are you up to date?

As in previous years there are a small number of members who have either forgotten to renew their membership in September 1995 or no longer wish to be members. If there is a red band across the top of your newsletter, you have two years subscription outstanding. Unless we hear to the contrary, we will assume that you have left the Society. If there is a green stripe across the top of this newsletter, we have not received last years subscription. If you wish to receive the next copy of Northamptonshire Archaeology please could you send last years subscription along with this years. If there is a yellow stripe, it means that you are paying by standing order but the amount is incorrect. The outstanding amount is written in the yellow stripe. Could you send this to the address above and when convenient, change the standing order to the correct amount.

The A.G.M.

In order to involve members of the society who live in the eastern half of the county, this year the A.G.M. will be held in the Church Hall at Thrapston on Thursday, October 24th. The meeting will commence at 7.30 p.m. and will be followed by a lecture by the N.A.S. Chairman, Dr Martin Tingle entitled, **The History of Archaeology from Ploughed Fields**. This will look at the way fieldwalking began in the 19th century and how it has developed into one of the most important diagnostic tools of landscape archaeology. The results from surveys in Wessex and Brittany will be considered as well as some of the important developments in survey techniques many of which took place in Northamptonshire. The Church Hall is situated next to St James's Church. Those approaching Thrapston on the A45 should pass under the A14 and at the next roundabout, turn left into Thrapston High Street and then first right after the traffic lights into Chancery Lane. Any nominations for election to the committee should be supported with a proposer and a seconder and sent before October 3rd, to **Mark Curteis, Hon Sec N.A.S., Central Museum and Art Gallery, Guildhall Road, Northampton, NN1 1DP.**

The 1996 Beatrice de Cardi Lecture

On Saturday, 12th October, the South Midlands Group of the Council for British Archaeology will be hosting the annual Beatrice de Cardi Lecture. This is a public lecture and all are welcome to attend. It will be given by Dr Ann Hamlin, Director of Built Heritage for Northern Ireland and is entitled **The Early Irish Church: History & Archaeology**. The lecture will begin at 3 p.m. at the Hunsbury Hill Centre. The centre is situated just off the southern ring road of Northampton (A45) and is well signposted from one of the main roundabouts.

Conference on the Iron Age to Roman Transition

A conference has been organised by the South Midlands branch of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, looking at aspects of the Iron Age to Roman Transition. Speakers will include Mark Curteis, Stuart Bryant, David Miles, J.D. Hill and Colin Hazelgrove. The conference will take place on Wednesday, 13th of November between 10.30 a.m. and 4.30 p.m. at the Lecture Theatre in Northampton Museum. There will be an entrance fee of £2. Space is limited so a telephone booking should be made with Sandy Kidd on 01604 237247.

Portable Antiquities

Mark Curteis, Secretary of the N.A.S. has recently written a response on behalf of the Society to proposals that could reform the law concerning treasure trove. The new proposals appear in a discussion document which stresses the responsibility of archaeologists to make proper records but regrettably places no emphasis upon the necessity of all finders to record how and where material was found. The Society would hope that there is a statutory requirement for all the information recorded to be passed on to the county sites and monuments record. The principal issue at stake is whether a scheme to ensure the full reporting of archaeological finds would be voluntary or compulsory. The Society supports a voluntary code however there are differing views of whether a compulsory scheme should be introduced if the voluntary approach proves ineffective. Whichever scheme is adopted, it will result in additional expenditure by museums and local authorities. Anyone wishing to read the full text of N.A.S. response to the Portable Antiquities Discussion Document should write for a copy to **Mark Curteis, Hon Sec N.A.S., C/o Central Museum and Art Gallery, Guildhall Road, Northampton, NN1 1DP.**

Homo Paidhisubontime

Following the remarkable appearance of these hominid remains at Collingtree Park, as reported in last September's newsletter, a committee has been established to promote a greater awareness within the Society of such unusual finds. If you would like to support the **COMmittee For Further Understanding Prehistoric Phenomena**, Dennis Jackson will be looking forward to hearing from you.