

# NASNEWS



## Newsheet of the Northamptonshire Archaeological Society

21 JUL 1998

27 GUILDHALL ROAD

### HAVE YOU GOT A PINK STRIPE?????

If there is a pink stripe across the top of this newsletter it means that, according to our records, you have not paid this years subscription. For ordinary members this is £10.00. Please sent it to :- Dennis Jackson 141, Windingbrook Lane, Collingtree Park, Northampton NN4 OXF, to be sure of receiving your copy of.....

### THE LARGEST VOLUME OF *NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGY* EVER PUBLISHED

Collecting contributions for Northamptonshire Archaeology is often like waiting for the proverbial double decker bus. Nothing appears for months and then suddenly one is inundated with articles. It was certainly the case this year, to such an extent that the forthcoming journal will be the longest ever produced, being over 300 pages in length. This will include major reports from the Northamptonshire Archaeology Unit on the excavation of Medieval sites in Northampton and Daventry as well as an intriguing Prehistoric site at Tansor. In addition to this we have pieces on Borough Hill by Dennis Jackson, A Roman Building at Hemington by the Rev. Professor Friend, A Geophysical survey of earthworks at Wadenhoe by Adrian Challands, a challenging interpretation of the Medieval development of Northampton by Tom Welch and the interim report of what must rank as the archaeological discovery of 1997, The Pioneer Helmet and its associated finds. There is even book review (the first of many I hope): Dr Grenville Astill writes on the recent English Heritage report of the excavations at Raunds Furnells by Andy Boddington. It is hoped that Volume 27 will be available for collection by members at the next AGM in October.

### DEFENSES OF BRITAIN PROJECT UPDATE

This project is intended to record the complete range 20th century military structures that currently survive, ranging from pillboxes to fuel dumps. Within Northamptonshire over 270 sites have been logged, including a WW1 munitions factory at Warkworth near Banbury, numerous airfields constructed during WW2 through to sites dating from the Cold War. If you would like to take part in this valuable survey, please send any data you may have or requests for report forms to:- Graham Cadman at Northamptonshire Heritage, PO Box 287, 27, Guildhall Rd, Northampton, Tel 01604 237245



## **PORTABLE ANTIQUITIES**

The NAS has recently offered its full support to a bid being made by the Local Authorities in the county for the establishment of a pilot post to promote the voluntary recording of archaeological finds. At present there is no county wide provision for the identification and recording of finds made by members of the public and metal detectorists. If successful it is hoped that post will be established later this year, for an 18 month period.

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**25th-26th July.** Over this weekend of there will be a series of events to mark National Archaeology Days. In the East Midlands this includes a 'Romans in North West Leicestershire Day' on July 25th at Donington-Le-Heath Manor House, Coalville (hands on archaeology, food, re-enactment, games and crafts. Contact Peter Liddle: 0116 2656791). Also, in Lincoln, there is a chance to view the remarkable Roman Postern Gate hidden beneath Bank Street. Brief talks will be given by museum staff. Admission 30p (Contact Caroline Lloyd: 01522 530401). A full list of events are available from the CBA (Contact Julia Mather: 01904 671384).

**29th August.** Piddington Villa Excavations Open Day. This seasons excavations will complete the examination of a workshop and also look at the outer wall of the villa courtyard with the intention of revealing the gatehouse. The open day will feature guided tours of the site as well as exhibitions of finds

**21st November.** Coins from Northamptonshire 100BC to 1700 AD. An Introduction. A half day conference is to be held at Northampton Central Museum, Guildhall Road between 1.45pm and 4.30pm. The afternoon will begin with an introduction from Mark Curteis followed by talks on the conservation of coins, the impact of the new Treasure Act on coin finds and the importance of coin analysis in modern archaeology. The afternoon will be concluded by the chance to look at a special display of coins from the museum and a coin identification session.

**19th-21st December.** The annual TAG Conference (Theoretical Archaeology Group, but don't be put off by the name) is to be held this year at Birmingham. TAG is one of the largest and frequently one of the most interesting archaeological conferences held in this country. Sessions this year include Regionality in Roman Britain, Ancient Mythologies, Art and artifice in the Classical World and the Management of Africa's Heritage. For further details contact TAG98, BUFAU, The University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT.