



NASNEWS

Newsletter of the Northamptonshire Archaeological Society

Website: www.northants-archaeology.org.uk



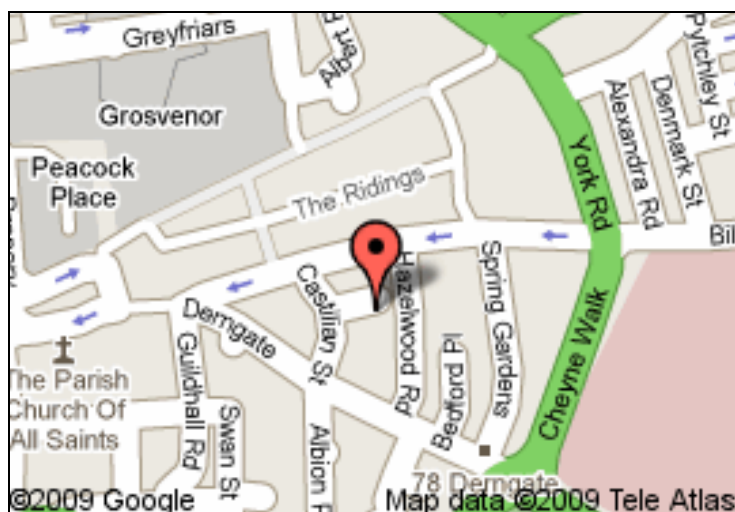
October 2011

NAS AGM and Public Lecture

Tuesday, 8 November 2011

The Humfrey Rooms

10 Castilian Terrace, Northampton NN1 1LD



Doors open at 6.30pm, refreshments provided

The AGM begins at 7.00pm

The AGM will be followed
by the annual public lecture

Ian Meadows

Recent work on the Roman small town of Irchester

See attached poster for further details

We would like to thank the Northamptonshire Natural History Society
for welcoming us to their excellent meetings room for a third year

NAS COMMITTEE

Anyone wishing to join the committee to help the Society keep running, and who can bring in new energy and fresh ideas, please step forward. This year, we would like to thank Martin Weaver for his support in past years, but he is stepping down from the committee as he is leaving the country. New candidates should notify the Secretary in advance, together with the names of two members to nominate and second their application (or they can be nominated on the night).

Elected by the committee:

Chair: Steven Hollowell

Vice-chair: David Waller

Standing for re-election to the committee:

Secretary and journal editor

Andy Chapman

Membership secretary

Pat Chapman

Treasurer

Ian Barrie (see below)

Meetings secretary

If anyone would like to take on the task of arranging a meetings programme, please step forward

Other committee members:

Graham Cadman, Roy Friendship-Taylor and Brian Giggins

NAS TREASURER

In the absence of any willing volunteer, Ian Barrie has continued to serve the Society as Treasurer, making that now 20 years in the post, and the committee would like to extend their thanks to Ian and his wife for seeing us through yet another year. However, Ian would still like to step down, so we are still seeking a new Treasurer.

DIGITAL NASNEWS

As we only publish a newsletter two or three times a year, there are inevitably events of interest to our members that fall between newsletters. In order to provide better coverage, we will on occasions issue a digital newsletter that will go straight onto our website. The same information will also be available through our new Facebook page, see below.

SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER

A reminder for those who do not pay by direct debit that subscriptions were due in September, apart from those who joined from this summer onward. Subscriptions are still held at the same rate, despite inflation.

£10 individual membership,

£12 family membership, £8 students

£15 local associations and £25 institutions

Cheques payable to Northamptonshire Archaeological Society.

Send to: Pat Chapman, NAS Membership Secretary,

c/o Northamptonshire Archaeology, 2 Bolton House, Wootton Hall Park, Northampton, NN4 8BE.

NAS ON FACEBOOK

We now have a Facebook page where we can add up to date information, particularly of events that fall between our paper Newsletters:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Northamptonshire-Archaeological-Society/150763944988956>

People can also add comments and even initiate a discussion through these pages, please have a look at it and make use of it. See screen shot below.

Northamptonshire Archaeological Society - Windows Internet Explorer

http://www.facebook.com/pages/Northamptonshire-Archaeological-Society/150763944988956#!/pages/Northamptonshire-Ar

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What's on your mind?

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Northamptonshire Archaeological Society
Historical Association, Northampton Branch
15 September 2011, 7.30pm at St Matthews Parish Centre, Northampton NN1 4RY
'The Battle of Britain', Dr. Garry Campion (University of Northampton)

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**DENNIS JACKSON-
A REMARKABLE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGIST**

Sales of Dennis's book have been steady but not dramatic, and we still have a long way to go to cover the printing costs. So, if there are any members who haven't yet purchased a copy now is an excellent opportunity.

We will have it on sale at the bargain price of £12 for those attending the AGM, and for anyone who can collect it personally from me at my office, see address at the end of the newsletter. For all others it is available at the retail price of £14.50 plus £2.50 postage. Purchasing direct from us also means we take all the money, rather than losing a third to the bookseller. A poster with an order form is attached to the newsletter.

THE JOURNAL: *NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGY*, VOLUME 37

Last year we managed to produce both a journal, volume 36, and Dennis Jackson's autobiography in time for the AGM at the end of November. I am afraid this year we have not managed to produce volume 37 of the journal in time for the AGM. This is a result of a lack of submissions, of which I have received only three, one extremely long and two quite short, and also my own failure to complete some of my reporting backlog, which I had hoped to include.

The lack of submissions from commercial archaeologists, including Northamptonshire Archaeology, reflects the pressure that the commercial archaeological world has been under since the recession, with the battle for survival having to take precedence over publication. There is also a continuing dearth of submissions from the various local societies, although we do hope to have something from CLASP (Community Landscape and Archaeology Survey Project) in the next issue.

Despite the non-appearance of the journal, we ask all of our members to maintain their support of the society through continuing their membership, as we do need to maintain our bank balance to fund future projects; and publishing both a journal and a book last year has had an impact on our financial reserves.

We do have the promise of valuable issues of the journal to come, and I am still hoping that we can put together a series of journals each with a period theme.

Given the recent attention being paid to Northampton Castle, generated by the potential changes that may come with the building of a new station, we hope to produce a volume focussing on Northampton. This will cover: the Saxon origins of the town, as explored by the Northampton Development Corporation in the 1970s to mid 1980s, which now seems largely forgotten or at least badly garbled in recent media coverage; the archaeology of Northampton Castle, particularly the unpublished excavations of the 1960s; and the volume will also include digital copies of many earlier reports to provide a valuable resource of information on the archaeology of Northampton.

I am also still hoping to produce a volume with a prehistoric theme, particularly an Iron Age focus, and a Roman volume is another possibility. With all of these we hope to supplement the printed volume with a CD containing digital copies of relevant reports that are no longer readily available.

JOINT MEETING WITH THE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Would all members please make a note in their diaries for next year that in February 2012 we are having a joint meeting with our friends and colleagues in the Northampton Branch of the Historical Association.

9 February 2012 at 7.45pm

The Origins of the English Village Revisited

Prof. Christopher Dyer of the University of Leicester

at St Matthew's Parish Centre, The Drive, Kingsley, Northampton NN1 4RY



West Cotton, Raunds under excavation in the 1980s

Professor Dyer is one of the leading scholars in the country on the subject of medieval villages, and his talk will enlarge upon issues that have been addressed in Northamptonshire through both the Raunds Area Project and the Whittlewood Project, which have put Northamptonshire in the forefront of the subject.

Below we provide a list of other forthcoming meetings of the Historical Association, visitors and new members always welcome. Meetings are held at St Matthew's Parish Centre, The Drive, Kingsley, Northampton NN1 4RY, unless otherwise stated.

2011 November 24th, Northampton Branch AGM at 7.45pm

followed by "Britain and the American Civil War" at 8pm, David Waller (University of Northampton)

2012 March 8th at 7.30pm,

"Minorities and the Civil Rights Movement in America"

Sue Donnelly (University of Northampton), Venue: Bishops Stopford School, Headlands, Kettering, Northants, NN15 6BJ (tel. 01536 503503)

2012 April 19th at 7.45pm,

"To Bury Caesar: Church Memorials"

William Walford MA (Branch Programme Secretary)

2012 May 10th at 7.30pm,

"Meeting Houses of the Society of Friends"

Derrick Whitehouse, Venue: The Friends' Meeting House, Wellington Street, Northampton NN1 3AS.

NAS AT THE PALACE

Earlier this year, His Royal Highness, the Duke of Gloucester, as President of the Society, arranged for four members of NAS to receive invitations to a Buckingham Palace Garden Party. The society was represented at the Palace by Andy and Pat Chapman and Roy and Liz Friendship-Taylor.

The Garden Party was held on the 29 June, a warm and sunny afternoon. Having presented ourselves, with passports, at the Hyde Park entrance (to avoid the queues at the main entrance), we were allowed to roam around the immaculately maintained palace gardens. Tea, served in a very long marquee on the lawn below the balcony, did include cucumber sandwiches and was very good, particularly the mini coffee éclairs. At 4pm the Queen and Prince Phillip appeared on the balcony before progressing around the grounds to the Royal tea tent.

On leaving we were shepherded through the room leading onto the balcony and the huge entrance hall with multiple staircase and corridors beyond, before exiting through the inner and outer courtyards. The photographs, below, include what will remain a very rare occurrence of Andy Chapman wearing a suit.



In contrast, less than a week later we were dressed rather differently, in snake guard gaiters and carrying a gallon a day Camelbak water supply, as we joined palaeontologist Prof. Thomas Carr and his students to spend two weeks prospecting for dinosaur bones in the July heat of the rocky badlands of Montana, USA.



Portable
Antiquities
Scheme

www.finds.org.uk

Have you found a human-made object in the ground that may be more than 300 years old?

Every year, all over the county, thousands of archaeological artefacts are discovered by members of the public. The **Portable Antiquities Scheme** provides an opportunity to discover more about your find, and through having it recorded, to take an active part in the preservation of our heritage.

You can meet the Northamptonshire Finds Liaison Officer (FLO), Julie Cassidy, at a local **Finds Surgery**. Or you can contact her on **01604 237 249**, or email jucassidy@northamptonshire.gov.uk

Finds surgeries for 2011

20 October	Northampton Central Museum	2.30pm – 4pm
24 October	Corby Heritage Centre	2.30pm -4pm
26 October	Kettering Manor House Museum	2pm – 4pm
1 November	Towcester Council Offices	2pm – 4pm
7 November	Wellingborough Museum	11am – 1pm
12 November	Stanwick Lakes Visitor Centre (Free parking for those recording their finds)	1pm – 3pm
14 November	Daventry Council Offices	2.30pm-4pm
17 November	Northampton Central Museum	2.30pm-4pm
30 November	Kettering Manor House Museum	2pm – 4pm

NAS Secretary and journal editor: Andy Chapman, NAS c/o Northamptonshire Archaeology, 2 Bolton House, Wootton Hall Park, Northampton, NN4 8BE

achapman@northamptonshire.gov.uk

Northamptonshire Archaeological Society
AGM and public lecture

Tuesday, 8 November 2011

Doors open 6.30 for light refreshments: 7.00pm - AGM
Followed by lecture –

RECENT WORK ON
THE ROMAN SMALL TOWN OF IRCHESTER

by

Ian Meadows

of Northamptonshire Archaeology

at

THE HUMFREY ROOMS, 10 CASTILIAN TERRACE
NORTHAMPTON NN1 1LD

All welcome - free entry



Ian Meadows presents the results of recent geophysical survey
and excavation both within and around the walled Roman town