



NASNEWS

Newsletter of the Northamptonshire Archaeological Society

Website: www.northants-archaeology.org.uk



October 2021

NAS AGM and public lecture

Tuesday, 2 November, 7.00pm

Given the still uncertain position with Covid-19, the committee decided that the safest stance was to hold the NAS Annual General Meeting online via ZOOM, as with the last AGM, so I'm afraid you will have to arrange your own tea/coffee and biscuits again.

Details of how to log in to the AGM will be distributed to anyone who has registered in advance by email to NAS196674@gmail.com.

NAS AGM

Chair: Mike Curtis

Officers' reports

Statement of accounts

Election of Hon. Officers and other members of Council. The following are all willing to stand for re-election:

Andy Chapman: Secretary, Editor and Treasurer

Rob Atkins: Meetings Secretary

NAS NEWS editor: vacant

Pat Chapman: Membership Secretary

Other members of council:

Mike Curtis, Graham Cadman, Steven Hollowell, Brian Giggins and Adam Sutton

Anyone wishing to join the committee to help keep the Society running, and who can bring in new energy and fresh ideas, please step forward.

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.

Public Lecture

The AGM will be followed by a public lecture by Lyn Blackmore of MOLA (Museum of London Archaeology)

The Prittlewell 'Prince' a rich Anglo-Saxon burial in the local and wider context

The richly furnished princely chamber burial at Prittlewell, Southend, is the earliest post-Roman Christian burial in England and the most important Anglo-Saxon burial found since the discovery of the great ship burial at Sutton Hoo in 1939. Although the identity of the deceased is unknown, he clearly belonged to a wealthy community with connections to Kent, Europe and the Mediterranean.

NAS Accounts 2020-21

A full statement of the society accounts are circulated with this NASNEWS.

NAS Subscriptions

It's that time of year again, when membership fees fall due. Many now pay directly into the NAS bank account, and we would ask those who don't to consider making a direct debit to NAS. For those who still pay by cheque please make sure that you make it out in full to: Northamptonshire Archaeological Society, not just NAS.

The current membership rates are:

Individual: £12.00

Local Societies: £15.00

Student or retired: £10.00

Family membership: £15.00

This entitles the member to a single copy of the journal and copies of our newsletter, as well as supporting the existence of the society and the journal.

Borough Hill hillfort, Daventry

On Sunday, 5 September 2021, we relaunched outdoor activities with Chris Chinnock of MOLA providing an excellent guided walk around Borough Hill, Daventry for members of NAS, CBA South Midlands and MOLA, all in brilliant sunshine on a late summers afternoon that was, if anything, even a little too hot.

Here are a few images (from Andy Chapman):



Chris Chinnock with plans and photographs



Views of the hillfort bank and ditch



Northampton Museum & Art Gallery Guildhall Road, Northampton

Indoor activities were relaunched with an after-hours guided tour of the new galleries at Northampton Museum and Art Gallery, led by Jane Seddon, Collections Manager, on Tuesday, 14 September 2021.



Introductory talk by Jane Seddon at Northampton Museum & Art Gallery

Interesting fact:

the clock face above the reception desk (right) is from the clock on the old Emporium Arcade, with its magnificent façade, which stood on the north side of the Market Square. It was demolished in the early 1970s to enable the

construction of the Grosvenor Shopping Centre, with a rather less than magnificent façade. (photos: Graham Cadman)

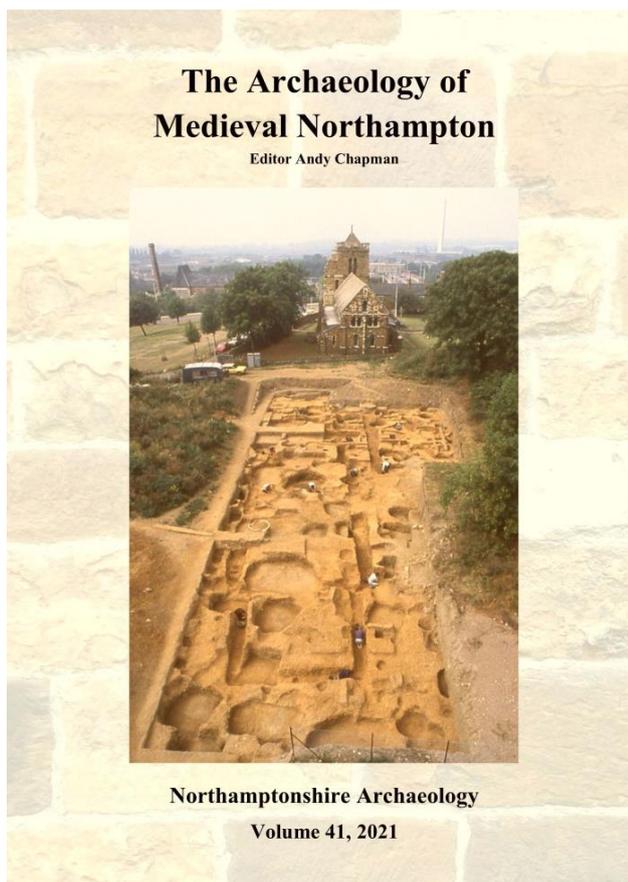


Northamptonshire Archaeology, 41, 2021
The Archaeology of Medieval Northampton

The new journal is heading in the right direction. Most of the articles have been typeset and there is only one article that still needs to be finished before it too can be sent for typesetting to complete the volume ready for printing.

If the arrival of the printed journal starts to run close to Christmas we will hold back on posting copies until the New Year, although we might arrange a collection day for those in the Northampton area, so we can save some postage costs.

We are also in the process of arranging a public book launch at Northampton Museum and Art Gallery in the New Year, provisional date: Saturday, 26 February 2022. We hope to have a few speakers with copies of the new journal and other local publications on sale to the public



The principal articles are:

- Brave New World: Northampton Development Corporation and Archaeology 1970-85***, John H Williams
- Prehistoric Northampton: A circular ring ditch and flint scatters***, Andy Chapman
- Anglo-Saxon Northampton Revisited***, John H Williams, Michael Shaw and Andy Chapman
- Late Saxon and Saxo-Norman occupation beneath the outer bailey of Northampton Castle***, Andy Chapman
- The late Saxon town defences at Green Street, Northampton: a review of the evidence and a radiocarbon date***,
Andy Chapman
- Northampton Castle, Part 1: Introduction, pre-castle archaeology, and the history and topography of the castle***, Andy Chapman
- Excavation within the Outer Bailey of Northampton Castle, 2013-15***,
Andy Chapman
- Excavations at The Green, Northampton 1983: the Anglo-Saxon and medieval phases***, Michael Shaw
- The Topography and Archaeology of the Medieval Synagogue and Jewry, Northampton***, Marcus Roberts
- Archaeological investigation at the former Fishmarket and 5-7 Sheep Street, Northampton***, Tim Upson-Smith, Charlotte Walker and Mark Holmes
- An alternative topography for the medieval Jewry, Northampton***, Andy Chapman
- From medieval quarry pits to a 19th century foundry at Cow Lane (Swan Street), Northampton***, Claire Finn
- The history and development of the Northampton County Gaol and Northampton Museum and Art Gallery***, Amir Bassir
- There are also numerous shorter notes for both Northampton and the county, notes on finds through PAS (Portable Antiquities Scheme), details of many recent publications, obituaries, and roundups of excavations in the county.

The Changing Face of Archaeology

As if the news about the closure of the archaeological department at Sheffield was not enough bad news, fears about this being a trend have been raised once more with the announcement that Worcester University is to close its archaeology department. It is fair to say that whilst university management boards are quick to the point the finger at the dropping numbers of students, there are other factors that need to be considered. Without waving any particular political flag, it is certainly noticeable that the current thinking in Whitehall is against Arts and Humanities, which automatically places university departments in a difficult position. Pressures on university budgets resulting from the combined effects of the Covid-19 pandemic and Brexit, may well lead to restructure amongst the universities in the coming years, with perhaps some mergers and more sharing of academic expertise.

Of course, there is the argument that archaeology taught in universities has lost its direction, and if we step back in time, something which archaeologists are very good at doing, universities in the 1970s and 1980s were at the forefront of British archaeology, not only from a teaching perspective, but also as places of active research and development (R&D) that often became important in advancing the discipline. Much of this activity was not curriculum taught and often was undertaken by staff and students alongside normal teaching and class attendance. It helped enhance the profiles and standing of archaeology departments, as seen in the case of Sheffield, but more importantly these universities became leaders in their field and were responsive for shaping archaeology as a discipline.

Today things are completely different, and the vibe has been lost. With few universities offering modules in field archaeology that, in

addition to an undergraduate degree, would offer the student enough training and experience to enter the profession at a supervisory, or even better, project manager, level, it is easy to see where the Government are coming from as the career pathway is broken, and as a teaching career archaeology is already well over subscribed.

It is also worth considering the input of R&D that was so important in driving archaeology forward. The drastic reduction and lack of interest in this has undoubtedly slowed the progress of the discipline, and universities have failed to embrace the opportunities and prospects offered by the creation of archaeological R&D hubs that could foster non-academic innovative collaborative research to bring archaeology into the 21st century with new, easily accessible tools to help us in our studies and investigations of the past.

The need to look forward is also important in community archaeology, where the tradition of societies like NAS and other local societies have played vital roles in the research, investigation, preservation and monitoring of our heritage. However, a change in approach is also needed here for, and as shown by the large numbers who volunteered to work at the recent excavations at Chester House, whilst the workforce is of a good size, we should think more across the county of the benefits of having more opportunities to upskill, so in essence more dedicated training courses and opportunities to introduce new techniques and skills. The development of such programmes has been slow to evolve for the volunteer sector but perhaps the time is now right to push this forward. With the availability of more community project funding, and a resource need for trainee fieldworkers in commercial units, this change could indeed be beneficial and rewarding to those with a passion for archaeology.

Michael J Curtis, NAS Chair

The forthcoming Planning Bill

In August 2020 the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government published a White Paper consultation document called Planning for the Future. A new Planning Bill is about to follow, and is intended to deliver the proposals contained in that White Paper. The indications are that Government is committed to deregulation with a 'simpler, faster and more modern planning system' delivering housing and infrastructure more quickly across England. If correct, this could have far reaching implications and consequences for Northamptonshire's past.

The present planning system, whatever its faults, has helped protect our built and buried historic environment when threatened by development proposals. Concerns have arisen that the potential removal of safeguards suggested in the White Paper could conflict with the existing protection of our built and buried historic environment. Planning for the Future suggested changes of priority from one of protection and conservation to one of more easily facilitated development within the planning system.

Part of Government's proposed 'radical reform' involves dismantling the provisions of the 1947 Town and Country Planning Act, where each planning application is considered on its merits, and replacing it with a Zonal system. Using the medium of Local Plans, all land would fall within one of three zones - Growth, Renewal and Protected, with different planning rules applying in each. In both 'growth' and 'renewal' zones, development will be the presumption. Understanding and defining the sensitivities and boundaries of each zone will doubtless place high demands (including for enhancement?) on already over-stretched local HERs and archaeological planning advisers. Planning applications would be judged according to pre-determined criteria applicable to each 'zone'. The ability of the

public to provide individual responses to individual planning applications, as at present, would cease. Public engagement opportunities would instead be focused on Local Plans.

We should remain alert to all potential changes in local and national government that might threaten our archaeological and historic environment heritage. The fear is that the new Planning Bill leads to archaeological sites, historic buildings and landscapes being altered or lost without adequate study, recording or protection. It will be important that the new Bill is accompanied by effective measures permitting prior investigation to be undertaken of archaeology and historic buildings and landscapes irrespective of the zone they occupy. Without this, sites will be lost.

Many voices have raised concerns regarding the detail of the forthcoming Bill and the wish to support our built and buried past. This includes a recent appeal, reported by the BBC, by Professor Alice Roberts and historian and TV presenter Dan Snow

[Archaeologists dig in over planning reforms row - BBC News](#)

One positive outcome of the new Planning Bill would be if it placed all local Historic Environment Records on a statutory footing for the first time. This could be vital in helping improve baseline data and local government advice structures.

Graham Cadman

Angel Street, Northampton Uncovering the first medieval chess workshop to be found in Britain



Medieval chess pieces from Angel Street, Northampton; the head of a king/queen and a bishop, indicated by the paired heads (replacing the usual symbolic elephant tusks)

Northamptonshire Archaeology (now MOLA) was commissioned by Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) to carry out an archaeological investigation associated with the construction of new public sector headquarters in Northampton at Angel St/St John's Street. After evaluation, a large scale excavation took place in 2014 and found a continuously occupied site dating from the early 12th century to the modern day.

During the earlier part of the 12th century the land was heavily quarried for ironstone. The area was within parts of three medieval plots which fronted St John's Street. The street and the area around were influenced by St John's hospital, which was founded in 1138-1140, and was located on the other side of the road. A few dispersed buildings occupied land along both Angel Street and St John's Street by the mid-12th century. Domestic pits and a bread oven lay to the rear of Angel Street and a short-lived modest timber-framed building within a small part of the area fronting St John's Street. The building had a possible L-shaped layout (if the potential earthen cellar was

included). The postholes indicate that it was at least 4.5m wide and more than 3.0m long, extending beyond the site.



Carver's workshop, looking south-east

This building is identified as a workshop producing antler chess pieces, and other objects, from the recovered antler debris that is from all stages of working, from a near complete antler, numerous sawn offcuts, trimmed antler pieces and partly carved objects, through to the disposal of a near complete chess bishop. These remains are exceptional, as this is the first time that partly worked medieval chess pieces have been found associated with a workshop.

The timber building was refurbished once and had been replaced by a building in stone by the mid-13th century.

Brewing and baking were undertaken next door during the late 12th and early part of the 13th centuries. A stone building with a cobbled floor lay towards the centre of the St John's Street frontage. Behind the building were four wells, a clay-lined tank for

water drawn from the well and several ovens, including at least two bread ovens and three malt ovens. This activity ceased at around the time that the carver's workshop was replaced in stone and much of the frontage was cleared. Rear yard structures and ovens were demolished, wells were filled and the ground was levelled before subsequent rebuilding, in a sequence that ran through to the present day.

The excavation has been published recently as an Archaeopress monograph.

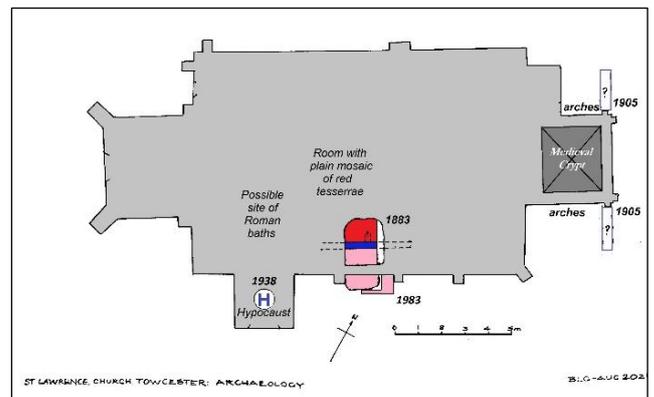
Brown, J, 2021 *Living opposite to the Hospital of St John: Excavations in medieval Northampton 2014*, Archaeopress (362 pages; 205 figures, 91 tables (colour throughout). ISBN 9781789699364. Epublication ISBN 9781789699371

There have also been articles in *Current Archaeology*, 377, July 2021, 20-26, and *British Archaeology*, 180, October 2021, 8

Old Towcester: The Roman building below Towcester parish church

When visiting the interior of Saint Lawrence church, it would be difficult not to appreciate its quiet sanctity and its age. The exposed stonework, monuments and timbers that give the indication of times past, are survivors of radical changes to worship going back as far as the 12th century and perhaps as early as the 10th. What is not readily apparent is that over a metre below the Victorian encaustic tiles and heating ducts, there lie remnants of a large building erected about 1900 years ago, during the Roman occupation.

Although building works and burials inside the church must have encountered the remains of the structure on numerous occasions, it is not until 1883 that it is first recorded, and works in 1905, 1938, 1983 and 1985 have provided us with tantalising glimpses of what must have been a significant Roman building.



The church showing Roman discoveries

The 1883 restoration of the church included the provision of heating, for which a boiler room needed to be created beneath the south aisle. Sir Henry Dryden of Canon's Ashby, the foremost antiquary in the County, visited the work and recorded two portions of Roman floors separated by a Roman stone wall running parallel to the South Aisle. On the north side of the wall was a tessellated floor comprising two-inch square cut red tiles, and on the other side a floor comprising five-and-a-half inch long bricks, laid in herring bone pattern, and eight inches lower than the tessellated floor.

In 1905 the crypt of the church was being restored, which involved exposing the foundations of the chancel on the north and south sides to a depth greater than eight feet. The exposed foundations were mentioned by local historian and numismatist, George Smith, in an article which he wrote for the *Northampton Herald* in 1912. He recalled how the foundations rested on huge blocks of local sandstone which looked older, and that there were arches on either side. There was also a stone wall reaching halfway up the excavations "as exposed at each end of it" which extended beyond the chancel in a northerly and southerly direction.

This suggests that the east wall of the chancel was built on top of this earlier wall. George thought that this wall was Roman. Amongst the finds the work disturbed was a small Roman bronze coin, a Nuremberg token,

a piece of Samian ware and a fragment of what he called a Roman cinerary urn. This report, especially the reference to arches, begs the question of whether the chancel is built on top of the foundations of a Roman heating system known as a hypocaust?



Members of the History Society during excavations in 1983



Roman brick floor found in 1983 excavations

The Vicar in 1938, the Rev. Canon Ford, appears to have invited some dowzers to

investigate the church and they reported back to him that their dowsing suggested that some of the old church silver had been buried beneath the south porch. He was convinced by them, and a deep and dangerous hole was excavated in the porch floor. Phillip Chatwin, an eminent archaeologist, and historian of Birmingham, visited the excavation and chastised the Rev. Ford for the danger his excavation posed to both the building and anyone working in the hole, but noted that there had been a lot of square bricks discovered, which were from a hypocaust. No silver was found.

During August 1983, Rev. James Atwell informed the History Society that the church would be replacing the boiler which would involve further excavations outside the steps leading down to the boiler room. The History Society contacted local archaeologist Charmian Woodfield, who saw that the workmen had found pink cement, which was used in the Roman period, about four feet below the surface.

The Rev. Atwell agreed to an emergency dig and helped Mrs Woodfield and the History Society undertake the work over the following two days, during which they discovered that the Roman brick floor extended into the churchyard and they found pieces of box-flue tile and pilae tiles, like those found by Canon Ford, plus some painted red roof tiles. Some of the box flue tiles were shaped which suggested that they came from a round vault, a type found in some Roman bath houses. The find of a quarter-round blue painted cement moulding suggested the presence of a hot or cold plunge bath.

In 1985, Charmian Woodfield, with her husband Paul, returned to keep an eye on shallow drainage works which cut across the west front of the building. They encountered black ash near the main entrance, suggesting that there might have been a stoke hole for

the Roman building in that area. Here too, they found roof tiles and flue tiles which were probably brought near to the surface by the digging of graves.

Charmian Woodfield considered that the building lying under the church was either a substantial Roman bath house or a town villa used as an overnight stay by officials and dignitaries called *mansios*. The remains she recorded suggested that there was originally a timber building which was replaced by a more substantial structure in the 2nd century with baths and lime mortar floors skimmed with white mortar. On top of this white floor was laid the herring bone brick floor. During the mid-3rd century the building declined and was used by a metal worker working with bronze, who dug a pit through the herringbone brick floor. In the beginning of the 4th century, the room to the north was raised and re-laid with a coarse tessellated floor.

Charmian was unaware of the 1905 material recorded by George Smith. If what he saw were Roman walls and arches it might indicate a villa like building, orientated north-east to south-west, which may have had wings at each end; the wing to the south-west containing baths and that on the north-east having a hypocaust system. It was certainly a significant Roman building in the town and might have been a useful quarry for material when the first church was built in the 10th or early 11th century.

Sources: Northamptonshire Historic Environment Records; Northampton Herald 22-3-1912; Northampton Mercury 16-6-1883; Towcester Deanery Magazine November 1983 and Webb & Sunderland (eds) 1995 Towcester-The Story of an English Market Town, 13-15

Brian Giggins, Chairman TDLHS & The Historic Towcester Survey Group.

'Discover Centre' at Northampton Central Library

It was pleasing to discover on a recent visit to Northampton Central Library on Abington Street, Northampton that what was once known as the 'Northamptonshire local studies collection' is again open to the public and without a requirement to book in advance.

Now called 'Discover Centre' the collection continues to be located in the basement of the Central Library. It holds a large collection of local, family history and other resources. These include old photographs and images; local newspapers on microfilm as well as access to the British Newspaper Archive; a large collection of Northampton and Northamptonshire historic and OS maps and plans together with census returns from 1841 to 1901 (microfilm and fiche), parish registers and trade and street directories and a variety of printed material and history and archaeology volumes and books. Some of the latter are available for loan.

The Discover Centre is open 4 days a week; Tuesday to Friday from 10am to 4pm.

The Library recommends that due to staffing requirements opening hours may occasionally be changed at short notice. If you're planning to visit Discover, it's recommended that you email the library to confirm that it will be open on that day.

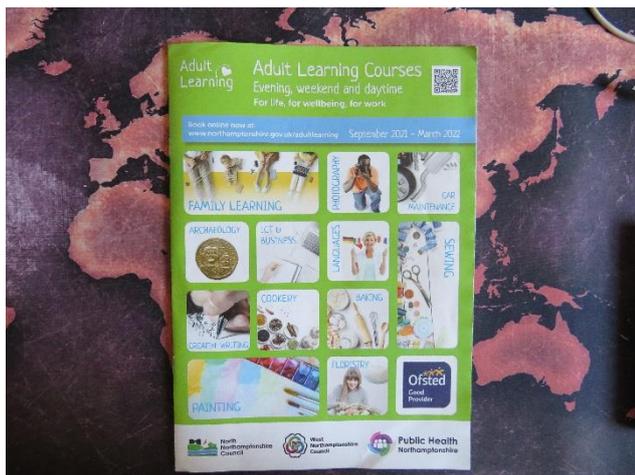
Tel: 0300 126 7000. Email:

Northampton.LibraryPlus@westnorthants.gov.uk

Please also email them if you have questions about the collections or would like them to locate something for you in advance of visiting. They can also provide access to computer and microfilm/fiche readers.

Further details about service are available at: [Local and family history - LibraryPlus \(northamptonshire.gov.uk\)](http://northamptonshire.gov.uk)

Northamptonshire Adult Learning Programme for the Autumn



As residents of Northamptonshire will have seen, after being thrown slightly off course, excuse the pun, by Covid-19 and the restrictions on classroom teaching, the new Northants Adult Learning Programme shows a return to a mix of classroom based and online learning. Archaeology is featured on the cover the new programme and within as a subject, with a selection of courses to suit a variety of tastes and interests. All the archaeology classes for the autumn term will be online, a decision which is supported by the feedback obtained from learners during the winter 2020 and Spring 2021 terms. The courses on offer are:

Britain's Prehistoric Landscapes

6 afternoon sessions beginning Wednesday 6th October. Course tutor: Michael J Curtis BA (Hons), MA.

This course is all about the prehistoric landscape of Britain, taking learners on a journey in time from the earlier hunter-gatherers through to the Iron Age. The course explores topics such as Bronze Age burials and the 'beaker' culture, monuments like Stonehenge and Avebury, stone circles, causewayed enclosures, burial mounds, hill forts, settlements and the development of agriculture, fields and farming. The course shows how, over time, the landscape developed as the countryside became more

settled and communities arose leading to the emergence of the Iron Age tribal units.

The Byzantine Civilisation

6 evening sessions beginning Thursday 7th October.

Course tutor: Michael J Curtis BA (Hons), MA

The aim of this course is to present an overview of Byzantine History from the refoundation of Constantinople (modern Istanbul) by Constantine the Great to its final capture by the Turks in 1453.

Introduction to Ancient Greece

4 afternoon sessions beginning Wednesday 24th November. Course tutor: Michael J Curtis BA (Hons), MA.

This course traces the history of the Greek civilisation through its sites and monuments, archaeological discoveries and finds. The course draws on the rich material culture of the evidence, looking at the discovery and finds from sites like Myceanae and Knossos, the city of Athens, the royal tombs of Vergina, Delphi and other sanctuaries of the gods. This is a good introduction for those considering visiting Greece or who are curious about ancient Greek history, culture, and society.

Introduction to Underwater & Maritime Archaeology

4 evening sessions beginning Thursday 25th November. Course tutor: Michael J Curtis BA (Hons), MA.

This four-session course is an introduction into the fascinating world of underwater and maritime archaeology, looking at the development of underwater archaeology and the study of shipwrecks and submerged remains.

Information on place availability and online booking can be found at:

<https://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/council-services/children-families-education/adult-learning/Pages/default.aspx>

Further archaeology courses are being planned for the start of the Spring term in January 2022, and it is hoped that these will be based at Chester House.

Local Society News:

CLASP dig September 2021: Anglo-Saxon cemetery

A few years ago ploughing near Nether Heyford in Northamptonshire unearthed the remains of two skeletons. CLASP was asked to undertake some exploratory fieldwork and subsequently has exhumed nearly 30 skeletons.

Fieldwork since then has revealed at least 35 inhumations, in a linear row, the structured layout indicating that the cemetery was more than a family burial ground.

Some of the burials are aligned roughly north/south whilst others have a west/east alignment with their heads positioned at the west end of the grave. None of the latter were interred with grave goods.

Some interesting and poignant examples of the burials include a young woman complete with perinatal foetus and what appeared to be a deviant burial, a skeleton face down and whose feet had been cut off.

Grave goods included a personal iron knife, and a spear, together with a shield boss and a copper alloy strap end with associated belt clasps located on the hip and shoulder. The spear and the shield boss are consistent with the 5th c AD. Other burials in the cemetery are associated with the late 6th early 7th c.

Initial examination of the bone samples by the School of Archaeology at Oxford indicates that one of the individuals probably came from Scandinavia.

This year CLASP hopes to establish the final number of inhumations associated with the site and the overall layout of the burial rows, and to uncover more evidence of the

different burial traditions at the site.

Financial assistance is needed to contribute towards the cost of the dig as well as to cover isotope and DNA analysis of the skeletons, together with treatment and preservation of the artefacts.

If you are able to help please go to JustGiving to make a donation, however small, all donations are gratefully received. Photos of the artefacts can also be viewed on the JustGiving page.

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/CLASP-Anglo-Saxon>

For further information about CLASP (Community Landscape Archaeology Survey Project) go to: <https://claspweb.org.uk>

Irthlingborough Archaeological Society

The 2021 season of excavation at Tannery Cottages, Irthlingborough will run between the 6th and 18th September.

In 2017, IAS undertook its inaugural excavation and revealed the remains of two rectangular stone-built Roman buildings with associated finds comprising a piece of relief sculpture, several coins and iron nails as well as pottery. Geophysical survey, commissioned by the society in 2016, identified a series of probable enclosures and anomalies seeming to suggest pits and possible hearths. This season would aim to expand on the initial, tentative, findings and generate enough local interest to push on for a 5-year project of exploration and research aided by Pre-Develop Archaeology, a professional archaeology unit.

Chester House Official Opening

For those NAS members who have not caught the Chester House roadshow, either online, in person, or through social media, the long-awaited opening of the Estate is fast approaching. Using their own marketing, once finished and open, the historic landscape of the Estate will offer a base for education and

learning surrounded by shops, a café, and can act as base from where you explore the county, staying in on-site bed and breakfast accommodation, or if you prefer to travel by water, you can now moor your boat at a new landing stage on the river Nene just below the House. For those tasked with looking for that special inspiring location - it will also be equipped to handle weddings.

At the time of writing, the Estate hopes that it will be fully open to the public in time for the half-term holidays, though some of the activities will take a little longer to plan in.

Several of my fellow tutors in Northants Adult Learning Services have already expressed an interest using the venue for their courses, and personally speaking I hope to run my modules on 'The Archaeology of the Catuvellauni' and 'Interpreting the Landscape' here in January 2022.

For more information on Chester House Estates and the opening please consult their website:

<https://chesterhouseestate.org/about/>

Michael J Curtis

Trainee Archaeologist Opportunity

Following on from our Chair's piece in this newsletter about the changing face of archaeology, members might be interested in the Museum of London Archaeology's paid Trainee Programme that is currently being run from MOLA's Northampton office.

MOLA are looking for trainees to join and develop on-the-job skills and knowledge with their dedicated trainers. If you're interested in history, archaeology or construction and want to advance your career prospects by learning practical skills whilst gaining valuable work experience, then MOLA want to hear from you! MOLA promotes diversity and equality of opportunity at all levels, and so welcomes applications from people regardless of sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, age or religion or belief.

Check out the Early Careers page on the MOLA website for more details:

<https://www.mola.org.uk/about-us/work-us/early-careers>

Help Wanted:

Hardwick Park, Wellingborough

This is a bit of long shot: I am trying to locate photographs of the observation work and excavations from Hardwick Park, Wellingborough, in 1968-76. This work was undertaken during the construction of the Kiln Way and Minerva housing estates and was published in *Northamptonshire Archaeology*, 12, 1977.

Since the official photographic record of the work has proved difficult to locate, I thought I would ask around. Any shots of the construction area during this time would be helpful.

If you can help, please contact Michael Curtis: mikecurtis1956@yahoo.co.uk

Books to donate to The ARC

The new Northamptonshire Archaeological Resource Centre is looking for books concerning archaeological and history from the county. NAS has donated books including the complete run of our journal. If anyone (or society) have spare books please contact Ben at:

The Chester House Estate

Higham Road, Irchester, NN29 7EZ

Phone: 07912891699

Ben.Donnely-Symes@northnorthants.gov.uk

AND FINALLY

If you have any items you would like included in either the next NAS NEWS or our Facebook page contact:

Andy Chapman

NAS secretary and journal editor

NAS email: NAS196674@gmail.com