



NASNEWS

Newsletter of the Northamptonshire Archaeological Society

Website: www.northants-archaeology.org.uk



September 2026

Autumn Events

Upper Nene Archaeological Society

The autumn conference will be at Hackleton, Sunday, 11 October, on the theme: ***The Anglo-Saxon Archaeology of Northamptonshire*** (see attached poster and booking form), with the following speakers:

Stephen Upex, Nene Valley Archaeological Trust: *The Saxons in the (lower) Nene valley;*

Olwen Mayes, HiFARS: Higham Ferrers – *From middle Saxon estate centre, to market square, to castle (and other things in between);*

Simon Markus, MOLA: *Overstone, Northampton – excavations and scientific analysis of an Anglo-Saxon community;*

Andy Chapman, NAS: *Northampton before the Castle.*

CBA South Midlands

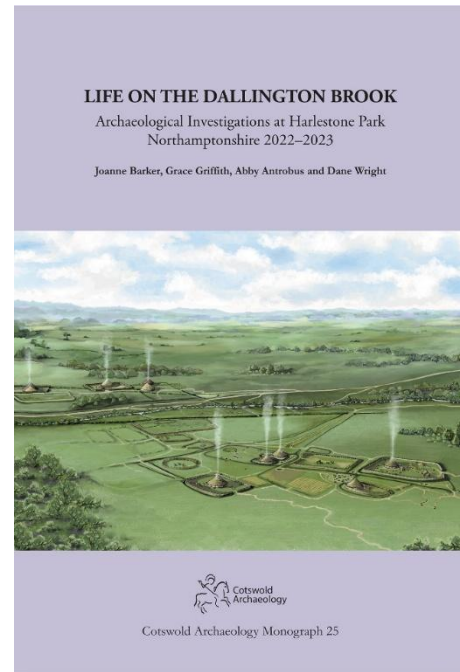
CBA South Midlands is having a break from their conference series this autumn - primarily because the proposed Sandy Archaeology Day is now provisionally scheduled for next spring instead. However, their AGM will be held online and will be accompanied by a couple of free talks – details of the talks and AGM will be circulated once they're available.

David Ingham will be giving a free talk at The Higgins Museum in Bedford on Thursday, 1 October, 11:30, about Albion's excavation of a well-preserved medieval kiln at Sutton, near Sandy (as reported in the latest *South Midlands Archaeology*); the exhibition prompted by it will also remain on view in the museum until Sunday, 4 October.

Market Harborough Historical Society

See the attached Details and Application form for our forthcoming History Day on Saturday, 31 October. Details on how to apply are shown at the bottom of the page. We shall be delighted to welcome any NAS members who would like to attend. Just make payment by bank transfer and then email our Treasurer to complete the process.

Publication



This month Cotswold Archaeology are publishing a monograph on their excavations in 2022-23 on a new housing site at Harlestone Park on the west side of Northampton. It can be obtained from Archaeopress:

Life on the Dallington Brook: Archaeological investigations at Harlestone Park, Northamptonshire 2022–2023

By Jo Barker, Grace Giffith, Abby Antrobus, Dane Wright

Cotswold Archaeology Monograph, **25**,
Hardback: 360 pages, £35.00 (digital copy also available)

The site produced two small Middle Bronze Age cremation cemeteries, but the main period of occupation was through the Middle to Late Iron Age, with the development of several abutting rectangular ditched enclosures, some of which contained one or two roundhouses. There was also Roman activity, including a lime kiln. (The Middle-Late Iron Age element has been mysteriously omitted from the present chronological summary on the Archaeopress website, but I can guarantee that it does make up a major part of the volume, including the illustration on the cover.)

Heritage Open Days

St Peter's Church, Marefair, Northampton Saturday and Sunday, September 19-20

This year, the Old Black Lion will also be open both days 12.00-4.00 pm, where you can see the completed restoration and an exhibition of archaeology from the dig in the churchyard.



ST PETER'S
MAREFAIR, NORTHAMPTON, NN1 1SW

- Fascinating 12th century carvings
- Display of antique prints & photos of the area
- Work of renowned local artist HENRY BIRD

SATURDAY 12th Sept 10 am - 4 pm
SUNDAY 13th Sept 12-4 pm
SATURDAY 19th Sept 12-4 pm
SUNDAY 20th Sept 12-4 pm

 **NORTHAMPTON TOWN COUNCIL** <https://www.fostp.org.uk>  **FOSTP**  **Churches Conservation Trust**

Saturday, 19 September, 10.30am–5.00pm Discover Brixworth's Heritage

Join the Friends of All Saints Church Brixworth for a day celebrating the fascinating history right on our doorstep. We're delighted to be taking part in Heritage Open Days.

This year's theme is Everyday History, and there's plenty to discover:

FREE guided tours of All Saints Church – explore the remarkable history and architecture of one of England's most important Anglo-Saxon buildings. Brixworth Photographic Society exhibition in the Heritage Centre.

FREE Children's Scavenger Hunt – something for our younger visitors too!

Homemade cakes and hot & cold drinks available in the Heritage Centre.

Plus the **FREE** Heritage Bus Ride – Route H10.

There's free on-site parking, and entry to the event and tours is completely **FREE**.

Whether you've lived in Brixworth for years, have always wondered about the history of the church, or simply fancy discovering something new, we'd love to welcome you.



The Friends of All Saints Church Brixworth are delighted to be taking part in England's biggest FREE heritage festival

Saturday 19th September
10.30am - 5.00pm

Hot & Cold Drinks plus A Selection of Homemade Cakes Available in the Heritage Centre

Join us for a **FREE** guided tour, a unique opportunity to explore this architectural masterpiece, nestled in the heart of Brixworth, a village rich in history. Tour time, 11.00am, 1.00pm & 3.00pm. Meeting point is the church entrance by the registration desk.

Everyday History Walking Tours of the Village Blue Plaque Trail at 12.45am & 2.45pm (booking not required). Meeting Point - The Heritage Centre

To book onto a tour please visit www.friendsforall-saintschurch.org.uk or scan the QR code

A fantastic display of photography from Brixworth Photographic Society also in the Heritage Centre

FREE Children's Scavenger Hunt
FREE On Site Parking (NN6 9BZ)
FREE Heritage Bus Ride - Route H10

FREE TO EXPLORE



Friends of Billing Road Cemetery

Guided walking tours on Saturday 19 September, 10.00, 11.30 & 2.00, and Sunday, 20 September, 11.30 & 2.00.

Meet at the main gate on Billing Road



Friends of Billing Road Cemetery

We are giving guided walking tours on

Saturday 19th September 2026 at
10am, 11.30am & 2pm
and
Sunday 20th September 2026 at
11.30am & 2pm

Meet at the main gate on Billing Road.

If you are visiting several sites during this weekend, our tour times coincide with timetable of the Northampton Transport Heritage buses, that will be stopping near the main gate on Billing Road.

Please wear sturdy shoes as the ground in the cemetery is uneven.

  <https://fobrc.org> 

Other Heritage Open Day events

For other events across the county go to the county pages on the Heritage Open Days national web site (yes, for this event we are considered to be the single entity of Northamptonshire):

<https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/>

Below there is a simple list of places providing events at one of more days over the coming week, **but you must check online for actual dates, times and booking details.**

My apologies to places that I have left out because they were only holding events this weekend (12-13 September).

Nassington Blue Plaque Route

The Amazing Northampton Walk

Cogenhoe village Heritage Trail

Remembering British Timken in Duston

St John the Baptist Church, Plampton

St Botolph's Church, Slapton

Heritage Bus Tour of Northampton's memorials and monuments!

150 Years of Weather Recording at the Northamptonshire Natural History Society

Beneath the Grandeur: The Workers of Delapré Abbey

Performing Room at 9 Guildhall Road formerly Franklin's Hotel & Restaurant 1872

Heritage Bus tour of Northampton's Boot & Shoe Quarter!

St. John the Baptist Church, Kingsthorpe, Northampton

Lunchtime Church: A Medieval Pause in the Middle of the Day, Church of The Holy Sepulchre, Northampton

Heritage Bus Services, Northampton

Canons Ashby

The Old Savoy, Northampton - The home of The Deco Theatre

Daventry Heritage Trail - Guided Walking Tour

384th Bombardment Group Museum

Heritage Day @ Towcester Museum

Arts Collective, 24 Guildhall Road, Northampton

Open Day - A Day at Church in Medieval Northampton; Torchlight Tour: The Medieval Church After Dark, and Church Tour, at Church of Holy Sepulchre, Northampton

The Story of Jeyes Fluid - Celebrating 150 Years, Earls Barton

Jeyes of Earls Barton - A maze of heritage exhibitions and awardwinning coffee shop

A 1760 Pub Crawl, The Bell, Brackley

Tell your stories of what home means to you, Burton Latimer Heritage Museum

Talk and tour of All Saints Church Earls Barton

Lyveden - National Trust

Sir Henry Royce Memorial Foundation Open Day, Hunt House, Towcester,

Rushton Triangular Lodge

From Courtroom to Council Chamber: Stories of the Guildhall from 1865

Raunds: Our People, Our Past

Sulgrave Manor and Gardens

Ancient Hillfort within Hunsbury Hill Country Park

Weedon Depot Visitor Centre: Exhibition & Tours

Charles Wicksteed & Co

Stanwick Lakes

Tales of Old Brackley Talk by Rosemary Leeper

NAS subscriptions

A majority of our members now pay directly to our bank account.

But for anyone who still pays by cheque (or even cash), subscriptions are now due for next year. And there will definitely be a journal appearing next year. If in doubt email our Membership Secretary, Pat Chapman, NAS196674@gmail.com

Roman Fest at Chester House Estate Saturday-Sunday, 25-26 July

Some of the NAS committee on our table and gazebo at Roman Fest: Mike Curtis, left, Rob Atkins, centre, and Andy Chapman, right. Photographed by Pat Chapman



An alternative view, below, showing our banner, with Chester House in the background

The next issue will contain details of our AGM and the guest speaker. Any other news for future issues to: Andy Chapman, NAS Secretary, NAS196674@gmail.com



UNAS Autumn Conference 2026

The Anglo-Saxon Archaeology of Northamptonshire



Sunday, 11th October 2026

Registered Charity No. 286966

Hackleton Village Hall, Chapel Lane, Hackleton, Northampton, NN7 2AH

10:30 Tea, coffee and biscuits

11:00 Welcome

11:05 **Stephen Upex**, Nene Valley Archaeological Trust: **The Saxons in the (lower) Nene valley**

12:15 **Olwen Mayes**, HiFARS: **Higham Ferrers – from middle Saxon estate centre, to market square, to castle (and other things in between)**

12:30 Buffet lunch, with a chance to view Anglo-Saxon artefacts from excavations in Higham Ferrers

13:30 **Simon Markus**, MOLA: **Overstone, Northampton – excavations and scientific analysis of an Anglo-Saxon community**

14:40 Tea and coffee

15:10 **Andy Chapman**, Northants Archaeological Society: **Northampton before the Castle**

16:20 End

16:30 Upper Nene Archaeological Society AGM

Tickets: £25 for (paid-up!) members of the Upper Nene Archaeological Society; £35 for non-members.
Lunch and refreshments are included in the price. **Booking is essential**

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- Please tick if you have any of the following dietary requirements:

Vegetarian ☐

Vegan ☐

Gluten-free ☐

Dairy-free ☐

- **If paying by BACS**, please quote your **surname** and '**UNASConf**'

A/C: Upper Nene Archaeological Society; Sort Code: 05-06-33; A/C No: 41158587

Please also email David Ingham at dp.ingham@albion-arch.com with your details.

- **If paying by cheque**, please send this slip and payment by 7th October 2026 to David Ingham, 21 Oak Tree Drive, Bedale, North Yorkshire, DL8 1UL (also e-mail dp.ingham@albion-arch.com or text [07717 866767](tel:07717866767) in case of postal delays)
- Enclosed is a cheque for £.....payable to: **UNAS**
- Acknowledgement of your booking will be by email or SAE.
- Names (all attendees).....
- Address.....
- Email.....Tel.....



Market Harborough Historical Society was founded in 1931 and became a Registered Charity in 1984, and was re-registered in 2014 Charity No. 1157244

THE MARKET HARBOROUGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS:

A NATION IN TURMOIL: ASPECTS OF THE ENGLISH CIVIL WARS 1642 -1649

**WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A NATION TURNS ON ITSELF?
JOIN US FOR OUR 2026 HISTORY DAY AS WE EXPLORE SOME LESSER-
KNOWN ASPECTS OF ENGLAND'S YEARS OF CIVIL WAR, 1642 TO 1649
– A TIME OF UPHEAVAL, CONVICTION AND LASTING CHANGE!**

THE SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION WILL BE:

'DISCOVERING KING CHARLES 1ST' – PROF. RICHARD CUST

**'TURNCOATS AND RENEGADES: CHANGING SIDES DURING THE
ENGLISH CIVIL WARS' – PROF. ANDREW HOPPER**

**'WOMEN ACTIVISTS AND THE CHALLENGES TO PATRIARCHY IN THE
ENGLISH REVOLUTION' – DR KATE PETERS**

'TREATING THE WOUNDED' – DR ISMINI PELLIS

DATE: SATURDAY OCTOBER 31ST,

VENUE: OCTAGON HALL, WELLAND PARK ACADEMY, WELLAND PARK ROAD

MARKET HARBOROUGH, LE16 9DR

FREE CAR PARKING AVAILABLE

START TIME: 10.00AM FOR 10.30AM

TICKET INFORMATION: £15. PER HEAD. £3. PER HEAD FOR STUDENTS 18 TO 25

TEA/COFFEE AND BUFFET WILL BE AVAILABLE DURING THE EVENT

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS OCTOBER 17TH.

Payment by Bank Transfer to Market Harborough Historical Society.

Our Bank: Natwest. Sort Code: 53-81-46. Account no: 87272601.

Reference: please quote MHHS and your Surname and initials.

When purchased please email: mikestroud01@aol.com,

Your registration will be confirmed by email