NASNEWS
Newsletter of Northamptonshire Archaeological Society
Website: www.northants-archaeology.org.uk
July 2008

NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGY WEEK
Saturday 12th – Sunday 20th July

Archaeology for all!

Below we list events taking place in Northamptonshire as listed on the Council for British Archaeology (CBA) website. We suggest that you confirm date, time and place of events with individual organizers before attending.

Festival of History
Sat 19 - Sun 20 July 09.30-18.00
Kelmarsh Hall
Festival of History returns this year to the stunning historic site of Kelmarsh Hall. See website for more details.
Contact: Kelmarsh Hall, English Heritage.
T: 0870 333 1183
W: www.english-heritage.org.uk

A Guided walk looking at the Anglo-Saxon Landscape
Sat 12 July 10.30-16.00
The Prebendal Manor, Nassington, Peterborough
A guided walk around Nassington looking at the Anglo-Saxon Landscape, with morning coffee, lunch and a private viewing of the medieval manor after lunch. Pre booking is essential. YAC children are free which includes a free lunch. Adults £15.00 Children £2.50
Pre-booking is required.
Contact: Mrs Jane Baile, The Prebendal Manor.
T: 01780 782575
E: info@prebendal-manor.co.uk
W: www.prebendal-manor.co.uk

Can you Walk the Talk?
Tue 15 July 17.00-19.00
Daventry Library, North St, Daventry NN11 4GH
A talk about archaeology and a virtual walk of Borough Hill, Daventry. Speaker Dewi Morris. Entry £5 including refreshments.
Contact: Mark Rowntree, Daventry Library.
T: 01327 703130
E: mrowntree@northamptonshire.gov.uk
Archives and Artefacts, at English Heritage’s Festival of History
Sat 19 - Sun 20 July 09.30-18.00
‘Festival of History,’ Kelmarsh Hall, Kelmarsh NN6 9LY
Come along and talk to staff from Northamptonshire County Council’s Archives and Heritage Service at English Heritage’s Festival of History at Kelmarsh Hall, on Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th July. Together with colleagues from the Portable Antiquities Scheme, Steve Ashby, the county’s Finds Liaison Officer, will be on hand to talk about the Scheme’s work recording archaeological objects found by local people. There will also be displays and artefacts to look at and touch. Staff from Northamptonshire Archives Service will also be present, and will be available to answer any questions you have about researching your family and local history.
Contact: English Heritage, Archives & Heritage Service, Northamptonshire CC,
T: 0870 333 1183
W: www.english-heritage.org.uk

“Heartland, Homeland Or Frontier” - Monuments of the Upper Welland Valley
Thu 17 July 10.15-16.30
Meet at Lubenham Village Hall car park 10.15 for 10.30 start. Lubenham lies 2 miles west of Market Harborough on A4304
“Heartland, Homeland Or Frontier” - Scheduled (And Not So Scheduled) Monuments Of The Upper Welland Valley: A tour of the significant monuments and earthworks of the Welland Valley west of Market Harborough. The Upper Welland Archaeological Group will guide visitors around each site on foot (mostly farmland) and provide an escort between. Please bring a packed lunch and a drink. Donations welcome. For details call 01604 637034
Pre-booking is required.
Contact: Alan Clark, Upper Welland Archaeological Group.
T: 07923 573863
E: alanclark62@hotmail.com

Sywell Country Park
Sun 13 July 11.00-17.00
Northamptonshire Archaeology, Northamptonshire County Council
Come along and meet staff from Northamptonshire County Council’s Archaeological Contracting service and Roman re-enactors. Displays of prehistoric flint knapping, corn grinding and pottery making, Roman military (try on Roman armour) and civilian crafts, Tudor cooking (weather permitting!) and archaeological finds. Demonstrations of field survey techniques including geophysical survey and the use of Global Positioning Systems (GPS). Some of the activities will be hands-on and children will also get the chance to ‘dig’ for pottery and bones, build a skeleton, construct a model Iron Age roundhouse and lots more.
Contact: Anne Foard-Colby, Northamptonshire Archaeology
T: 01604 700493

NAS will have a table with a small display at the Sywell Country Park event.
NAS would like to thank all of the societies and groups who put on displays at the Spring Open Day, and all of the visitors as well.

The day was enjoyed by all of the participants as a rare gathering together of the many diverse groups and individuals who all share a common interest in the archaeology and history of the county. I think there was a general consensus that all would be happy to take part in a similar event next year. Two lessons were learnt: firstly, that we should hold the event on a Sunday (to avoid the loss of visitors to the Saturday ritual of Shopping Day) and, secondly, that we do need to improve our advertising to let more members of the public know that we exist.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGY, VOLUME 35

Compilation of the next volume is nearing completion and it should be on its way to typesetting by early August. We are about a month behind last year and at the moment it is uncertain whether the volume will be available for the November AGM or slightly later. As this will be our first venture into digital (colour) printing and into A4 format we feel it is more important to get it right than to meet the artificial, if convenient, deadline of the AGM.
A Neolithic and Bronze Age Landscape in Northamptonshire
by Jan Harding and Frances Healy

English Heritage 2007; 324 pages
Like all aspects of the Raunds Area Project, this report has been long awaited and is now finally available. It presents the results of English Heritage, Northamptonshire Archaeology and Oxford Archaeology investigating more than 20 Neolithic and Bronze Age monuments in the Nene Valley between Raunds and Stanwick in the 1980s.

A digital copy can be obtained free of charge on the English Heritage web site (www.english-heritage.org.uk). Just follow the path: Home/Learning and Resources/Publications/Research Monographs. The report is provided as chapter by chapter downloads; eight altogether.

The bad news is that if you want a printed copy it is available as Print On Demand (POD) but at a cost of £45 plus £5.00 postage and packing (payable to English Heritage). To obtain a copy email or write to English Heritage Postal Sales, c/o Gillards Worldwide Warehousing & Distribution, Trident Works, Temple Cloud, Bristol BS39 5AZ (email: ehsales@gillards.com or phone: 01761 452966).

Iron Age and Roman Piddington: 6th Interim Report and phase descriptions of the late Iron Age settlement, military phase, Roman villas and Saxon phases at Piddington, Northants by R M & D E Friendship-Taylor
The Upper Nene Archaeological Society 2008, £5.00 to members, £5.50 to non-members, available from the museum or by post (+£1.40 p & p) from Roy & Liz Friendship-Taylor, ‘Toad Hall’, 86 Main Road, Hackleton, Northampton NN7 2AD.

The Romans in the East of England: Settlement and Landscape in the Lower Nene Valley
by Stephen G. Upex

Tempus 2008 224 pages, 79 figures and 23 colour plates
ISBN: 9780752441184
Paperback price £19.99 (+p&p) (It is available for £13.19 from Amazon)
Professor Upex shows how the Nene Valley and East Midlands area provides an ideal case study of the Roman occupation of Britain.

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