



NASNEWS

Newsletter of the Northamptonshire Archaeological Society



Website: www.northants-archaeology.org.uk

March 2016

NAS Committee

Chair: David Waller

Vice-chair: Steven Hollowell

Secretary and journal editor: Andy Chapman;

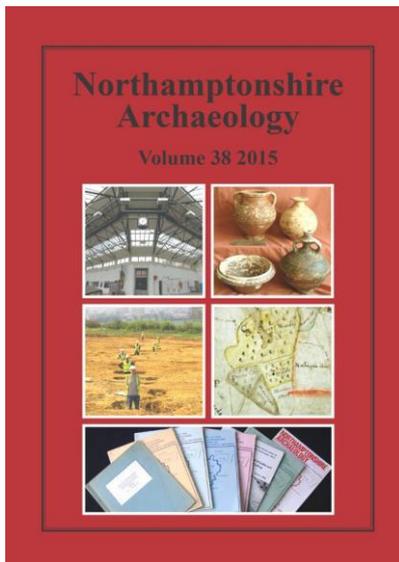
Membership secretary: Pat Chapman;

Treasurer: Carol Holmes

Members: Graham Cadman, Brian Giggins, Ian Barrie, Roy Friendship-Taylor and Mike Curtiss

Northamptonshire Archaeology Volume 38, 2015

Volume 38 of the journal has been delivered and distribution is underway, but it may be into April before they are all on in the post.



For the Northampton area we will be having an informal **Collection Morning** on Saturday, 26 March between 10.00am and 12.00am at the Offices of MOLA Northampton, Wootton Hall Park, off Mereway, Northampton NN4 8BN.

We are aware that this is the bank holiday weekend and perhaps not ideal from that point of view, but a combination of Saturday road closures on Mereway for works on the new access road to Wootton Hall Park, having some leave ourselves and the occurrence of

other Saturday events has left this as the only available weekend.

If anyone who would like to drop in to collect a journal, we will have tea and biscuits available and as MOLA hold a wide range of finds if there is anything in particular that you would like to see and handle we might be able to help. Please email any requests through so we can have the objects ready. There will also be a tour a building to show the workings of a commercial archaeology unit.

NAS Accounts

At the AGM last year there were still a few details to sort out, so the Accounts were not presented then as usual. A copy of the finalised accounts is therefore attached to this Newsletter.

Spring Meetings

Also attached are fliers for a couple of spring events: the South Midlands Archaeology, Spring day school to be held near Oxford, and the Medieval Settlement Research Group weekend conference to held at Lincoln.

NCC and Heritage in the Economy

Our enquiries about the future plans for heritage services in the county have finally received a written reply, even though it is the usual bland and uninformative statement.

We also attach the latest glossy propaganda brochure from the NCC, an outcome of a conference and black-tie dinner at Boughton House. Good to know that the county squirearchy is alive and well, just a pity that the same can't be said for the rest of society in this age of ongoing cuts to services to just about everybody in need.

Andy Chapman

NAS secretary and journal editor

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Northamptonshire County Council

Mr David Waller
Chairman
Northamptonshire Archaeological Society

Please ask for: Roy Boulton
Tel: 01604 366056
Our ref:
Date: 22nd January 2016

Dear Mr Waller

Archaeological and Heritage Interests

I refer to your letter to Councillor Harker, I have been asked to reply on his behalf.

I note your interest in how the proposals for a 'Next Generation Council' will affect the delivery of heritage services. In response I can report that from September 2015 the Archives and Heritage Service became part of the Council's Environment, Transport and Development Directorate. It is no longer included in the services that will form part of the new Community Interest Company based on public health and wellbeing activities.

Indeed, the move to the Environment, Transport and Development Directorate provides a direct link between the Historic Environment Record and the Archaeological Planning Advice Service with both functions now being under the same management. I can also confirm that the Northamptonshire Finds Liaison Officer post remains unchanged as does the Archives Service.

Chester Farm is a key project for the Council and good progress is being made on bringing this to fruition in the context of a wider heritage offer in Northamptonshire.

Finally in terms of the significant reductions in the availability of public sector funding we are always happy to receive support and advice on how we can maintain, whilst transforming our services, to meet the challenges of the future.

Yours sincerely

Roy Boulton
Assistant Director Environment and Planning