



# East Dorset Antiquarian Society

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**NEWSLETTER - SEPTEMBER 2007**

## **PERSONALIA**

We are very pleased to hear that Lillian Ladle, one of our members who has had some poor health recently, has now made a full recovery. She is also looking forward to leading the October EDAS Walk around Wareham, which is an area where she has made a very significant contribution to archaeological knowledge.

## **Subscriptions**

We remind members who do not pay by standing order that subscriptions are now overdue for renewal.

## **Forthcoming Events**

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Sep 2007 - Walk in the Kimmeridge Area with Gill and Allan Broadbent**

Join Gill and Allan for a morning walk in the Kimmeridge area and learn more about Sir William Clavell and alum production in the 17th century. The walk will take in Smedmore Hill, Swyre Head, Rope Lake Head, Kimmeridge Bay and Kimmeridge church, with an optional look at the village for those who wish. This will be approximately 5 miles of easy walking with one short steep drop off Swyre Head. There are wonderful views over the surrounding countryside, all the way to Poole Harbour and the Isle of Wight (if the weather is clear). Stout walking shoes and waterproofs are recommended. There will be a short break for coffee and either a picnic lunch at the end of the walk or refreshments are available in Kimmeridge village. The walk will be followed in the afternoon by a visit to Smedmore House which was built by Sir William Clavell early in the 17th century. This is the last opportunity to visit Smedmore House this year as it is only open to the public twice a year, with the entry fee of £3.50 per person going to a local charity. Those who wish to come on the walk please meet at the Top Quarry which is on the left hand side of the road just before Kimmeridge Village at 10.00 a.m. Grid ref. SY9185 8010. For those who wish only to visit the house please meet at Smedmore House SY 9242 7886 at 2.30 p.m. If time afterwards afternoon tea can be taken at the Corfe Castle tea room. Don't forget your NT cards if you wish to use the car park at Corfe.

(In case of inclement weather, or if you have any questions, please phone Gill on 01202 841547)

### **Sunday 7 October Guided walk around Portland**

Join us for a walk of 3-4 miles around Portland, which will be led by Keith Childs, a former English Heritage Inspector for Dorset. We will meet at 10:30 outside the Portland Museum at Easton, Grid Reference SY 696712. Keith will take us to Rufus Castle, St Andrew's Church ruins (steep steps) and other features. After a picnic lunch we will then move to another part of Portland, ending up at Portland Castle (£3.80, Concessions £2.90, EH members free). Any queries please contact Peter Walker 01425 471326 or [peter@peterwalker.info](mailto:peter@peterwalker.info)

## **Congress of Independent Archaeologists 31<sup>st</sup> August – 2<sup>nd</sup> September**

The 2007 Congress of Independent Archaeologists will be held from 31st August to 2nd September 2007, at Bishop Burton Agricultural College, near Beverley, Yorkshire. This will be hosted by the very lively local society, the East Riding Archaeological Society ([www.eras.org.uk](http://www.eras.org.uk))

The Congress offers the only opportunity for local societies to come together on a national basis to hear what other local societies are doing, and to present their own work at a national

forum. Societies that wish to present their work should make their applications as soon as possible.

A major feature of this year's congress will be a discussion of Agriculture and Archaeology: the New Relationship. The advent of 'set-aside' has revolutionised the relationship between farmers and archaeologists. But is this new relationship fully understood? Is it working as well as it could? The 12th Congress of Independent Archaeologists will examine these questions.

Details of the Congress, and a Booking Form, are now available on the Council's website at: [www.independents.org.uk](http://www.independents.org.uk)

Queries concerning the programme, and availability of speaking slots to Kevan Fadden, [fadden@kbnnet.co.uk](mailto:fadden@kbnnet.co.uk) Queries concerning accommodation to Keith Foster, [skfoster@btopenworld.com](mailto:skfoster@btopenworld.com)

One item that might be of particular interest is:

*New Capability for Resistivity Meters*

A breakthrough has been achieved in the use of resistivity meters. Bob Randall, who produces the TR Resistivity meters for the Council for Independent Archaeology has now devised a programme that will enable them to produce pseudo sections, that is a three dimensional section of a ditch, in addition to the usual two-dimensional plot.

He will be announcing this at the forthcoming Congress of Independent Archaeologists, to be held at Beverley Agricultural College, Yorkshire on the 1st – 2nd September, and his talk will include the following:

- What are pseudosections?.
- How to produce pseudosections with the TR/CIA meter.
- How to do it manually using minimum equipment.
- Compare example plots with excavated results.

Full details of the programme are now available on the Council's website ([www.independents.org.uk](http://www.independents.org.uk)), and all users of the meter as well as representatives of all archaeological societies are urged to attend to learn details of this remarkable advance. Book now to avoid disappointment.

Andrew Selkirk, Chairman, Council for Independent Archaeology,  
[www.archaeology.co.uk](http://www.archaeology.co.uk) tel (Office) 020 7435 7517 Home 020 7692 3719

<b><u>DATES FOR YOUR DIARY</u></b>
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The dates for EDAS events are underlined. The monthly evening lectures start at 7.30pm. Walks and field visits usually meet at 10.30 am at the published Grid Reference. Ring the leader if the weather is doubtful or if more details are required.

<b>2007</b>
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| <u>Sun 2 Sep</u>  | <b>Walk</b> with <u>Gill Broadbent around Kimmeridge</u> and also a visit to Smedmore House. See earlier for more details.                     |
| <u>Wed 12 Sep</u> | EDAS Lecture: <b><u>The Dorset History Centre</u></b> with Jacqui Halewood, County Archivist   |
| Sun 7 Oct         | <b>Walk</b> around Portland. See earlier for details.  |
| <u>Wed 10 Oct</u> | EDAS Lecture: <b><u>BC. Southampton's Prehistory on Display</u></b> with Duncan Brown Curator of arch-aeology, Southampton Archaeology Museum. |
| Sun 28 Oct        | <b>Walk</b> around Wareham led by Lilian Ladle. More details to follow.  |
| <u>Wed 14 Nov</u> | EDAS Lecture: <b><u>In the Footsteps of Alexander The Great</u></b> with Peter Sommer, archaeologist, writer and documentary producer.         |
| <u>Wed 12 Dec</u> | EDAS Lecture: <b><u>The whole is the sum of the parts: naming the parts</u></b> with Bob Hill of The Historic Building Advisory Service.       |