



East Dorset Antiquarian Society

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NEWSLETTER - MARCH 2009

Recent Events

EDAS Lecture

Our last EDAS lecture was "**An update on the Knowlton Project**" given by Dr. John Gale of Bournemouth University. We learned that initially, the Knowlton Project undertook substantial geophysical surveying of the Allen Valley, using new techniques that are better at seeing buried features. Subsequent analysis of the data has confirmed the suspicion of many local archaeologists that there are many more barrows than previous techniques have indicated (now known to be roughly twice as many). This analysis also seemed to show a number of deliberately separated cemeteries, sometimes on either sides of the Allen. There is a possibility that this could indicate different tribal areas.

One of the barrow cemeteries near High Lea Farm was selected, one of the reasons being that the site had already been extensively ploughed, and so little archaeology would be destroyed. This site has since been excavated over a number of seasons by the University, which also included help from some EDAS members. The site is a very interesting one, which showed a succession of changes over its history, but still almost exclusively being used as a very high status burial site. The standard of the excavation work done by the students was very impressive indeed, with the cleaned out encircling ditch especially showing how the monument would have looked originally. We thank John for a very interesting and well presented lecture that brought us up to date with progress at the site. It also whetted our appetite for what the new geophysical data might tell us about other sites in the Allen Valley.

Membership Renewals

Membership is due for renewal at the end of March. Renewal fees are £12 per year for a family, £8.50 for an adult, and £5 for a student. *We are very pleased to report that these fees have not increased for many years.* You will find a renewal form enclosed with this Newsletter. The Committee strongly prefers that you sign up to pay by standing order if you don't already. This greatly reduces the amount of book-keeping for committee members.

AGM

Our AGM is on Wednesday 28th March, and will be followed by a talk by Brian Maynard about the 2008 Dartmoor Field Trip. ***The AGM is your chance to give us your views on EDAS***, and vote for your 2009/10 Committee. The list of current Committee members is:

Chairman:	John Day	Membership Secretary:	Della Day
Treasurer:	Peter Walker	Programme Secretary:	Steve Smith
Secretary:	(Gill Broadbent)	Special Advisor:	Martin Green
Ordinary Members:	Graham Adams, Helen Brickell, Brian Maynard, Bryan Popple, Phil Roberts, and David Stewart		

In line with our constitution two committee member places are made available. Helen and Dave will both step down, and will stand for re-election. Unfortunately, owing to pressure of work, Gill has decided to not continue on the Committee. We thank her very much for all her hard work over the years.

The position of Secretary is therefore open for nominations. You will find a Nomination form enclosed with this Newsletter. It must be returned to Della Day by **20th March**. **Please note that this only gives you just over a week from the first March meeting.**

Forthcoming Events

Fund raising event for the Priest House Museum

An evening comprising *The Shadows Tribute Band* and a fundraising auction is to be held at Holt Village Hall, Holt, Wimborne on **Saturday 21st March 2009**. The doors open at 7.30pm and there will be a complimentary drink on arrival and a selection of light refreshments. Auction items range from potted plants and theatre tickets, to a ride and picnic in a 1937 Austin 10 and a signed England shirt.

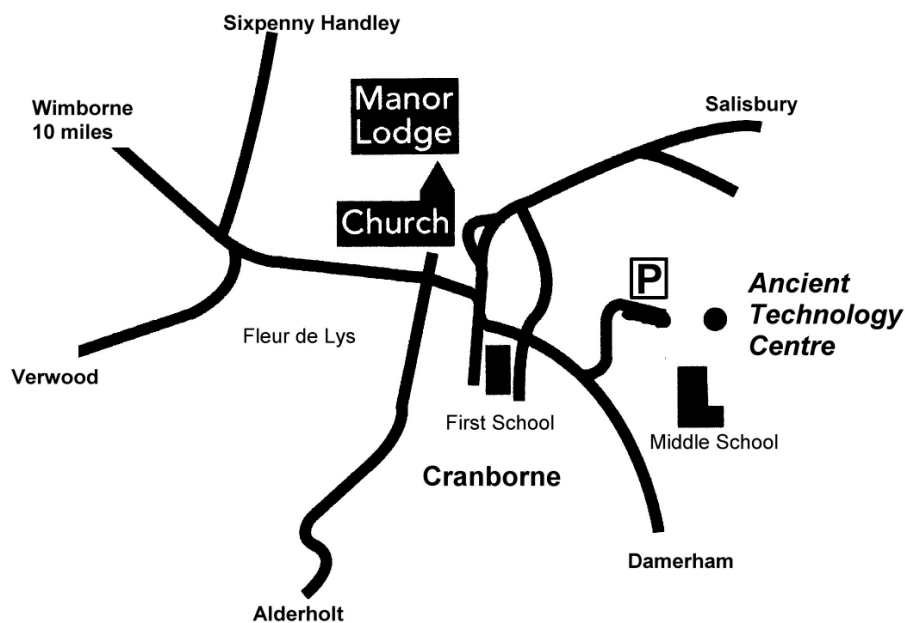
Tickets are £6.50 and are available from the Priest's House Museum or telephone 01202 734802.

EDAS Lecture 8th April at the Cranborne Ancient Technology Centre

Our **April** Lecture will be held at the **Ancient Technology Centre at Cranborne**. The title of Luke's his talk is a very general "Life at the Ancient Technology Centre".

There are parking facilities at the centre and there are spaces for 15-20 cars in a tarmaced area at the top of the track. Any overflow, or people who don't fancy the short length of unmade track, can park in the Middle School. Dave Stewart may 'direct traffic' on the day. It is expected that the lecture will be held in the Earth House, which has benches and is quite near the lighted buildings. However, as the surface of the site is a field then members might choose to bring a torch. There are toilets by the Car Park.

Please see the diagram below, which is redrawn from the ATC web page.



EDAS FIELD TRIP 2009

Please see a previous Newsletter for more details and an application form.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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.

2009

- Wed 11 Mar EDAS lecture: **The Black Death in Dorset** with Dr Mark Forrest of the Dorset Local History Centre.
- Wed 25 Mar **EDAS AGM**, followed by a talk by Brian Maynard on the 2008 Field Trip.
- Wed 8 Apr EDAS lecture at **The Cranborne Ancient Technology Centre** with Luke Winter. Please see earlier in this Newsletter for more details
- Wed 13 May EDAS lecture: **They do things differently there! Archaeology around the world** with Tim Schadla-Hall of University College London.

NOMINATION FORM for EDAS Committee Membership – 2009/10

To: John and Della Day, 2, Wigbeth Cottages,
Horton, Wimborne, Dorset, BH21 7JJ .

TO ARRIVE BEFORE 20th MARCH

I wish to nominate for the post of

Signed: Seconded:

Signature of nominee.....

EDAS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM FOR MARCH 2009/10

Please highlight any change of details

Surname/Forenames

Address and Postcode

.....

Telephone No. E-Mail.....

Method of Payment: 1. Standing Order _____ 2. Cheque. _____ **(Please Tick)**

Please return to:

Della Day, Membership Secretary, 2 Wigbeth Cottage, Horton, Dorset, BH21 7JJ

E-mail JOHN.DELLA@BTINTERNET.COM **Tel** 01258 840338

Name in block letters.....

Signed