

Established 1983

East Dorset Antiquarian Society

Charity No: 1171828

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<https://www.facebook.com/dorset.archaeology>

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NEWSLETTER – December 2017

***We wish everybody a Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year***

December Talk: just a reminder of a change to the programme, this month's talk will be given by Geoff Taylor entitled "Impressions of China – Past and Present".

2018 EDAS Field Trip: we are pleased to say that next year's field trip is fully booked. We have started discussions on a possible trip for 2019 which if it comes to fruition will take us overseas!

Congratulations: to EDAS members Dave Stewart, Sue Newman and Jo Crane, Vanessa Joseph and Sara Marshall for their special achievements that are reported within the newsletter.

Druce Farm Roman Villa Excavation: the site was closed on 17th November. We have to admit that those of little faith have been proven correct and we will return for a "short" season next year, to finish work on the two buildings we have uncovered. It's worth appreciating that the team spent 959 mandays effort on site this year, making a grand total of 4075 mandays since we started in 2011. We have also found features with sherds and flint artefacts that have been provisionally dated to the early Neolithic. During the winter we intend to send samples for C14 carbon dating to confirm the dates. Further investigation will be conducted under the guidance of Professor Tim Darvill.

Worth Matravers Monograph: this very impressive document is nearing completion and we have agreement with the Dorset Archaeology and Natural History Society for publication next year. This is a massive achievement and we are delighted for Lilian that the end is finally in sight! Several events are being organised to promote the findings with the local community in Purbeck, EDAS members will be invited to a half day seminar to be held at Harmons Cross Village Hall on 10th March 2018. Further details in due course.

EDAS at St Michael's Middle School: congratulations to all those involved in the work, clearing/rescuing the Bronze Age barrow at St Michael's Middle School. This was a very successful project introducing the school children to the importance and fun of practical archaeology (further details within).

Committee Members: we have vacancies for two new committee members, if you are interested please contact one of the committee for further information. Application forms will be sent out with the January Newsletter.

Chairman: Committee members are now in office for a maximum of five years before they have to stand down. This is the fifth year since Andrew Morgan became chairman and he will formally stand down at the next AGM in March 2018. He has been asked by the committee to consider staying on for another term. However if you would like to stand as chairperson then feel free to speak to Andrew or one of the committee. An application form will be sent out with the January Newsletter.

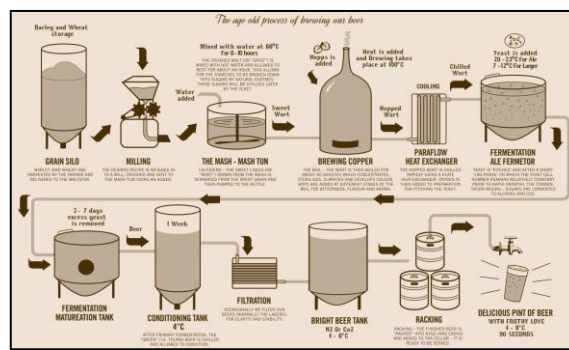
EDAS Lecture: Dorset Brewery and Malting Throughout the Ages by Dr Peter Stanier

Do you know your ale from your beer? Peter explained that the traditional drink of Merry England was ale, usually made from malted barley and flavoured with fruits and herbs, whilst beer is a relative newcomer from the continent and includes hops for flavour. It is believed that hops were first grown in Kent in the sixteenth century.

Both beverages are brewed using a fermentation method, resulting in a sweet, full-bodied and fruity taste and use a bittering agent, such as a mixture of herbs or spices referred to as gruit for ale whilst beer uses hops. Ale, along with bread, was an important source of nutrition in the medieval period and before, particularly small beer, also known as table beer or mild beer, which contained a lower level of alcohol.

Until the modern era brewing ale was a local industry primarily pursued by women. These brewsters or alewives would brew in the home for both domestic use and small scale commercial sale. The Beer Act of 1830 allowed licenced home owners to legally brew and sell their own beer, in effect setting up their own pubs. Many villages had several small pubs each with their own brewery. Just occasionally the partial remains of these original micro-breweries can still be found.

There are a number of steps in the brewing process, all are quite sensitive and need a great deal of care and attention, else the brew will fail:



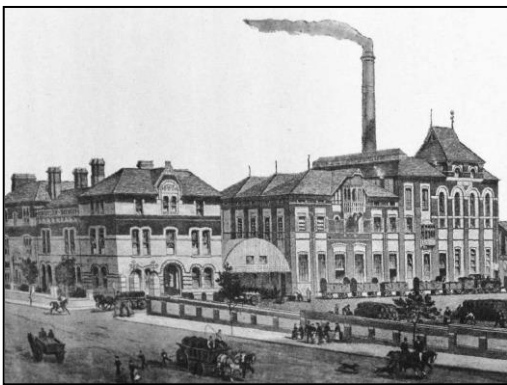
- **Malting:** this is a specialised process where barley grain is made ready for brewing. First the grain is allowed to soak in a vat of water for approximately three days. The grain is spread out on a drying floor to encourage germination. The final process involves high temperature drying in a kiln; with gradual temperature increase over several hours. The resultant shoot growths are discarded and the grains are now termed malt. Many small scale brewers would buy their malt from a specialised malting house which needed large storage facilities for the grain, extensive drying floors and kilns.
- **Milling:** the malt is milled or crushed to break apart the kernels and separate the seeds from the husk to make it easier to extract the sugars during mashing.
- **Mashing:** the milled grain is mixed with heated water (c. about 75–78 °C) in a large vessel, known as a mash tun, to create a cereal “mash”. Naturally occurring enzymes present in the malt convert the starches in the grain into simple sugars. The hulls and barley grist is removed leaving a sugar-rich liquid called “wort”.
- **Boiling:** The wort is moved into a large tank known as a "copper" or kettle where it is boiled with hops or other ingredients such as herbs, which add flavour and bitterness to the beer. This stage is where many chemical reactions take place, and when the brewer determines the flavour, colour, and aroma of the beer. At the end of the boil, the wort settles to clarify in a vessel where the more solid particles in the wort are separated out. The wort is now cooled ready for the next step.
- **Fermentation:** after cooling, the wort is poured into a fermentation tank. A type of yeast is selected, according to the type and taste of the beer, and added to start the fermentation process. The yeast consumes the sugars and releases alcohol, plus other by-products such as carbon dioxide. Primary fermentation is complete when all the sugars have been consumed.
- **Conditioning:** after fermentation the brewer may transfer the beer into a new tank, called a conditioning tank. Conditioning of the beer is the process in which the beer ages and the flavour becomes smoother.
- **Packaging:** After conditioning for a week to several months, the beer may be filtered and force carbonated for bottling, or stored in a cask.

By the nineteenth century beer making had become increasingly commercialised and centralised enabled by significant improvements to the road and rail transport networks. It increasingly became dominated by large companies, which continually expanded by buying out the competition and taking over their tied public houses.

By the second half of the 20th century there remained four main breweries in Dorset, of which only two remain:

Palmers Brewery: the Old Brewery in Bridport has been in operation since 1794. It is one of the few producers in the UK able to claim continuous production for over 200 years on the original site. It is situated on the river Brid which provided water and powered the water wheel (built c. 1879). Part of the Brewery Building is still thatched and from the outside the brewery has changed little in the last hundred years. The business was acquired in the late 19th century by the Palmer family. Since then, it has been growing steadily whilst being handed down from generation to generation. Peter thoroughly recommends a tour of this interesting old brewery.

Hall and Woodhouse: The brewery traces its roots to 1777, when Charles Hall founded the Ansty Brewery. In 1847 Charles' son and successor went into business with George Woodhouse and built a brewery outside Blandford. In 1875, the firm's logo of a Badger was introduced and in 1900 a new brewery was built to replace the original. The firm remains in the family.



Eldridge Pope: the origins can be traced back to 1837, when Charles Eldridge bought the Green Dragon Brewery in Dorchester. By 1879 the company had outgrown its old premises, and the Pope brothers wanted to build a large new brewery to satisfy their expansion plans for the company. They bought up four acres of land next to the railway line, and commissioned distinguished local architect W.R Crickmay to design a prestigious new structure which was officially opened in 1881, and very quickly became a tourist attraction and regarded as the finest industrial building in Dorset and the biggest employer in Dorchester. In 2003 the brewery was forced to close and the site is being re-developed into a centre for restaurants, shops and apartments.

Devenish Brewery: built on the site of Brewers Quay, Weymouth, had been used for brewing since at least 1252. There was good access to spring water from Chapelhay, while barley fields were located at Radipole. By the 18th century, there were three separate breweries on the site; under the ownership of the Flew family, William Devenish and the Davis Brewery. In the early 19th century, the Flew family sold their brewery to Devenish, and in 1960 Devenish acquired Groves. Devenish continued to produce beer from Brewers Quay until 1985. Following its closure, Devenish and the local council launched a major plan to transform the vacant building into a shopping centre with a pub and restaurant. It opened in June 1990.

In the nineteenth century Alfred Barnard achieved some notoriety when he visited and researched every working whisky distillery in the British Isles. In all, he visited an impressive 162 distilleries; 129 in Scotland, 29 in Ireland and 4 in England. The result of which was the 500 page ***The Whisky Distilleries of the United Kingdom***. Following this success, Barnard undertook a beer tour visiting over 110 breweries in Great Britain and Ireland. The end product of this tour was ***The noted breweries of Great Britain and Ireland***, published in four volumes. They give a description of the scale of industry at the time and also biographies on some of the distinguished families involved. One of the breweries he visited was that at Fontmell Magma, the buildings are still there. There he appreciated the entrepreneurial drive of the Flower Brothers who not only ran the brewery but were engineers who developed and patented bottle capping machinery. Eventually they moved to Wimborne and set up the Eclipse Works in New Borough which manufactured machinery for the brewing and bottling industries and was described in 1910 as the most important industry carried on in Wimborne Minster.



Today after years of decline the brewing industry is enjoying a renaissance, powered by the spread of micro-breweries producing high quality local beers. Several have opened in Dorset with one in Wimborne called Eight Arch Brewing Co, based at the Stone Lane Industrial Estate, Wimborne.

Andrew Morgan

Druce Farm Roman Villa – Fund Raising

We would like to thank the Shaftesbury & District Archaeological Group (SDAG) for making a generous donation of £250 to the project, for the specific task of C14 carbon dating a sample from the potential Neolithic feature we are investigating on the site. The cheque was presented to EDAS by Matthew Tagney, representing SDAG, who has been working on the site for several years. Matthew also presented us with an additional £150 for the same purpose that was donated anonymously.



As you will appreciate, the Druce Farm Roman Villa Project is a large exercise. The main expense for the project is to pay for professional experts to undertake special tasks, especially with post excavation work. This is absolutely essential and quite expensive even though most give us preferential rates and many do work without charge. None of the team receive any funding for their time, they willingly cover their own expenses and several have made large personal donations to the project. The landowners have been very considerate and have provided us with working capital every year to cover general expenses. From the start we have been very keen to invite members from different societies, from across the county and beyond, to experience the site and we have held Open Days especially for the local community and the general public. All visitors have been suitably impressed and many have given generously; several have made significant donations.

Next year we will be looking for large donations from several funding organisations so that we can continue with the post excavation work.

In our desire to share our findings with the local community we have started discussions with the Puddletown Society to hold a half day seminar in Puddletown in late 2018 when we will invite members of the local community. We will provide further details as and when this is arranged.

Andrew Morgan

EDAS Walk – Exploring Seventeenth Century Wimborne

Sunday 8th October dawned bright and fair for Dr David Reeve's second walk around the heart of Wimborne, attracting 30 EDAS members. It started with an explanation of the key differences between now and the 17th century...the houses were mainly cobb and thatch, the population were in constant fear of disease and plague, the town was full of noise, squalor, filth and obnoxious smells from the various industries in the town.



On the Green - David makes his introduction



Excellent tales of debauchery in the George Pub

We then heard about the complex administrative structure that governed the parish; three groups linked by kinship and occupation with different political and religious factions vying for control during a period of ever changing political and religious tensions.

The walk then focussed on the heart of the town and the importance of the weekly market and then went on to discuss other key occupations taking place particularly the textile, clothing, leather, building, food and drinks trades. Dr Reeve liberally embellished the walk with stories of ordinary people living in the town at the time. We walked the medieval bounds of the Borough manorial court even discussing where the ducking stool was located and used!

The walk concluded by discussing that by the end of the century the town had developed into a dynamic economic and cultural centre with evidence of education, religious toleration towards nonconformists, the development of municipal buildings for cultural and social purposes and the interaction of the professions in the intellectual life of the town. The cobb and thatch was being replaced by brick and roof tiles. There was increasing occupational diversity and specialism as the textile trade declined. This transition to a "country town" would continue during the 18th century and will be discussed in David's third and final walk next year.

Dr David Reeve

What happened after EDAS cleared that Bronze Age barrow in Colehill?

Back in Autumn 2015, the Wimborne History Festival was launched at St Michaels Middle School by Julian Richards. He talked to the whole school about the Bronze Age and the historic significance of the land that St Michaels now sits on and the heritage of the round barrow, then neglected and invisible underneath the undergrowth.



Geoff Taylor and Vanessa Joseph represented EDAS at a special ceremony where the Interpretation Board was unveiled by Cllr Derek Burt, Chairman of East Dorset District Council, and Julian Richards.



The recently cleared Scheduled Ancient Monument Round Barrow within the school grounds. Julian told us that he would still like to remove some of those trees!

There followed an intensive period of clearing on and around the monument, led by Julian and volunteers from East Dorset Antiquarian Society and involving children from the Forest School. Thanks to this hard work the site is now clearly visible so that children and visitors to the school can appreciate the round barrow and continue to learn about the significance of this scheduled ancient monument in the school grounds.

Earlier this year, five pupils from Year 5 took part in illustration and archaeology workshops with Illustrator Martin Brown and Graphic Designer Richard Broadway. Archaeologist Keith Childs taught the children about their Round Barrow and the Bronze Age showing them artefacts from the Priest's House Museum. This enabled them to draw illustrations for the Interpretation Board. The purpose of the Board is to help teach other pupils about the scheduled ancient monument within their school grounds.

Vanessa Joseph

DORSET MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEER of the YEAR AWARD 2017

Congratulations to EDAS members Sara Marshall and Vanessa Joseph who were presented with “Volunteer of the Year Awards” at the Dorset Museums Association (DMA) 2017 conference in November.



This all came as a big surprise to them as they were told a day before the event. They had been nominated as a “double act” by the Priest’s House Museum for their work behind the scenes in the archaeology collections, their application of professional skills to the benefit of the museum and for taking on their current challenge – match-fundraising for the museum’s Revival Project.

View from Above No 6: Chalbury Hillfort (NGR:36950838)

Continuing our series inspired by the aerial photographs taken by Sue Newman and Jo Crane this week we visit **Chalbury Hillfort** which is an Iron Age hillfort about south-east of the village of Bincombe in Dorset, England. It is a Scheduled Ancient Monument and lies just south of the South Dorset Ridgeway.



Photo by Sue Newman and Jo Crane

The site is a strategic position on a limestone knoll, 100-120m above sea level and overlooking Weymouth Bay to the south. It is a univallate D-shape structure with an external ditch, enclosing about 3.4 hectares. There is a simple entrance in the south-east. The gap to the south west is not original.

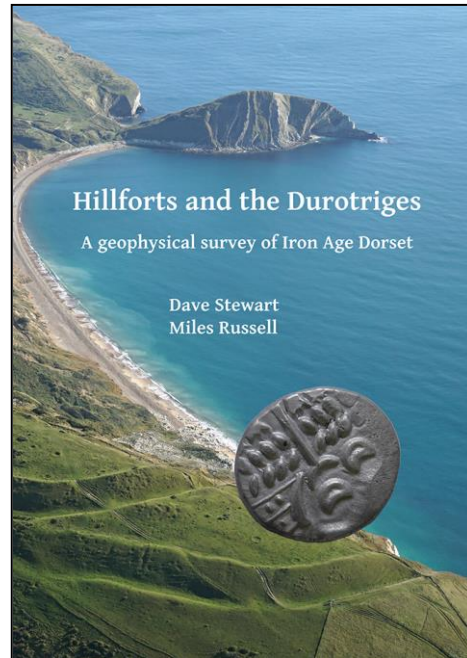
There are many circular depressions within the enclosure, and at least 20 are probably contemporary storage pits. Around the perimeter are at least 30 platforms/scoops, which are thought to be the sites of round houses. Also within the enclosure are two Bronze Age bowl barrows, 18.5–20 metres in diameter and about 1.7 metres high. There is an interior quarry ditch behind the rampart north of the entrance, from which material was used to construct the fort.

The site was excavated by Miss M Whitley in 1939. The rampart was found to have limestone revetments. Apart from a few finds of the late Bronze Age and the Romano-British period, most of the finds showed two phases of occupation in the Early Iron Age. There are medieval strip lynchets surrounding the fort, and running into the rampart on the north side.

Andrew Morgan

Hillforts and the Durotriges – *the* book for Christmas

We offer our congratulations to EDAS member Dave Stewart co-author with Miles Russell of Bournemouth University of this impressive study of the Hillforts of Dorset. We salute Dave on having completed the mammoth challenge of surveying each hillfort; a work of single-minded determination, commitment and I suspect several pairs of boots. All the fabulous aerial photographs have been taken by EDAS members Sue Newman and Jo Crane.



This volume sets out the results of a detailed programme of non-intrusive geophysical survey conducted across the Dorset hillforts, generating detailed subsurface maps of archaeological features, in the hope of better resolving the phasing, form and internal structure of these iconic sites. The dataset presented here not only helps to change our perception of what hillforts were, how they functioned and what went on within them, but also provides a way of assessing their longevity, reconsidering how they were perceived and reused in subsequent periods. Given the oft-cited association between the Dorset enclosures and the Durotriges tribe, who are thought to have occupied the area in the Later Iron Age, serious consideration is also for the first time given to the belief that hillforts formed the focus of conflict between the native tribes and the armies of imperial Rome in the first century AD.

A geophysical survey of Iron Age Dorset by Dave Stewart and Miles Russell, 176 pages; illustrated throughout in colour and black & white (115 colour plates). It is published by www.archaeopress.com

Stonehenge 2018 - Special Stones Access

Thursday 10th May

Following the excellent tour of the Stonehenge landscape and special access to the stones earlier this year, Julian Richards will lead another tour in 2018. This time the access is in the evening at 8pm, so the timetable is as follows:-

2.00pm	Meet at Stonehenge visitor centre (admission to the exhibition etc is included in the special access booking for those who aren't EH or NT members). Look at exhibition and Neolithic houses.
3.00pm	Landscape walk (Cursus, Cursus Barrows, Avenue and return from Stonehenge to visitors centre in bus).
5.30pm	Leave visitor centre in cars to look at Durrington Walls and Woodhenge Suggested early supper at the Stonehenge Inn nearby.
7.15pm	Return to visitor centre (need to be back there for 7.30pm).
7.45pm	Bus to stones for special access (8.00-9.00pm)

Sunset is at 8.43pm so this hour could be very "atmospheric" - let's hope the weather is as good as it was for this year's early morning visit. As before, Julian will provide an entertaining commentary throughout the day. For those who need to leave out any segment, the only fixed point in the timetable is catching the bus at 7.45pm.

Please note that the stones access is limited to 30 people (including Julian) so book early to avoid disappointment, and let me know if you will be missing for any part of the tour.

Cost is the same as for this year - £25. To book a place, please email Alan Dedden (alan.dedden@gmail.com) and remit the fee to the EDAS account (sort code 40-38-21, account no. 61334085 - put "Stonehenge" in the reference field), or post a cheque (payable to "EDAS") to Alan Dedden 44 Lake Road, Verwood, Dorset, BH31 6BX.

Please note that EDAS have already paid English Heritage, so fees will not be refunded in the event of cancellation unless we can re-allocate the places (however this was not a problem this year).

Alan Dedden

November Web Links – more from the internet

Why Did Neanderthals Die Out? A computer based study suggests that Homo sapiens "outlasted" rather than outclassed Homo neanderthalensis.

<https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/techandscience/humans-didnt-outsmart-the-neanderthals-we-just-outlasted-them/ar-AAulf0D?li=AAmiR2Z&ocid=spartandhp>

Large Void in Khufu's Pyramid: Japanese and French scientists have detected a large, previously unknown, void in the Great Pyramid of Khufu at Giza. The question has to be asked - have they checked the other pyramids?

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-41845445>

Roman Temple Restored Underground In London:

<https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/world/roman-temple-restored-deep-under-city-of-london/ar-BBEIwZE?li=AA59G2&ocid=spartandhp>

Ancient Egyptian Gymnasium Discovered:

<http://www.newsweek.com/ancient-egypt-newly-discovered-2300-year-old-gymnasium-made-tiny-village-look-704380>

Amazing Carved Stone From Ancient Greece:

<http://www.neatorama.com/2017/11/08/A-Rare-Carved-Stone-That-Could-Change-Art-History/>

A Lost Football Stadium

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/nov/15/archaeologist-rich-history-bradford-lost-football-ground>

Medieval Mass Grave In The Czech Republic:

<https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/world/europes-largest-mass-grave-found-in-czech-republic/ar-BBF5TrY?li=AAmiR2Z&ocid=spartandhp>

Society of Antiquities Lecture On A Roman Temple In SW Wilts (47 mins):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hgHRRmsABnU>

Roman Fort At Pegwell Bay:

<https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/uknews/first-evidence-of-julius-caesars-invasion-of-britain-unveiled/ar-BBFTnsA?li=AA59G2&ocid=spartandhp>

Particle Accelerator Used To Examine Mummy:

<https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/world/particle-accelerator-reveals-secrets-of-ancient-mummy/ar-BBFXZrg?li=AAAnZ9Ug>

Alan Dedden

EDAS PROGRAMME 2017-2018

Date	Event	Who	Title
Wed 13 Dec 2017	Lecture	Geoff Taylor	Impression of China – Past and Present
Wed 10 Jan 2018	Lecture	TBC	
Wed 7 Feb 2018	Lecture	Martin Green	New light on the Knowlton complex
Sat 10 Mar 2018	EDAS Seminar	Lilian Ladle and team	<p>Worth Matravers Excavation Seminar</p> <p>2.00-5.00pm</p> <p>Harmon's Cross Village Hall</p> <p>Details to follow.</p>
Wed 14 Mar 2018	AGM	AGM & Lilian Ladle	<p>AGM</p> <p>followed by Lilian Ladle talk about the 2017 EDAS Field Trip to Hadrian's Wall</p>
Wed 11 April 2018	Lecture at BU	Tim Schadla-Hall UCL	<p>"The pick and the shovel is the only true discoverer of the past."</p> <p><i>Our annual lecture hosted by the BU students' Archaeology, History and Anthropology Society</i></p>
Wed 9 May 2018	Lecture	Dr Robert Bewley	Endangered archaeology in the Middle East and North Africa.
Thurs 10 May 2018	Visit	Julian Richards	<p>Stonehenge – Access to the Stones</p> <p>Contact Alan Dedden</p>

Note: unless otherwise stated all lectures are from 7.30 – 9.30 pm and are held at **St Catherine's Church Hall, Lewens Lane, Wimborne, BH21 1LE.**

<http://www.dorset-archaeology.org.uk/>

DISTRICT DIARY

This is a diary on interesting events held in the area. We will not be held responsible for the arrangements so please check on the associated web-sites.

Date	Event	Group	Who	Title
Wed 17 th Jan 2018 7.30pm	Lecture	Wareham	Robert Heaton	Hook Sands and the Swash Channel Wreck Site
Fri 2nd Feb 2018 7.30pm	Lecture	DNHAS Brownsword Hall	Kath Walker	"Scandinavian Type" Flint Axes in Britain
Wed 21st Feb 2018 7.30pm	Lecture	Wareham	Andrew Morgan	Archaeology of the Peloponnese – a Greek Odyssey
Fri 2 nd Mar 2018 7.30pm	Lecture	DNHAS DCM	Dr Catriona Gibson	Bronze Age connections between Iberia and British Isles
Wed 21st Mar 2018 7.30pm	Lecture	Wareham	Peter Cox	The archaeology of the Wessex pipeline in Dorset
Fri 6 th April 2018 7.30pm	Lecture	DNHAS Dorford Centre	Prof Sir Barry Cunliffe	
Wed 18th April 2018 7.30pm	Lecture	Wareham	Mark Corney	Hillforts after the Romans

AVAS: Avon Valley Archaeological Society

- at Ann Rose Hall, Greyfriars Community Centre, Christchurch Road, Ringwood BH24 1DW
- <http://www.avas.org.uk/>

BNSS: Bournemouth Natural Sciences Society

- Events held at 39 Christchurch Road, Bournemouth BN1 3NS.
- <http://bnss.org.uk/>

BU AHAS: Bournemouth University Archaeology, History and Anthropology Society

- Events held on different days and different times
- Events usually held at Talbot Campus, Bournemouth in Kimmeridge House room KG03 on Talbot Campus.

CAA: Centre for Archaeology and Anthropology: Seminars and Research Centre Meetings

- Events usually held at Talbot Campus, Bournemouth in Kimmeridge House room F111 on Talbot Campus.

Dorset Humanists

- Event held at Moordown Community Centre, Coronation Avenue, BH9 1TW. .

DNHAS: Dorset Natural History and Archaeology Society

- Events held at various locations in Dorchester, now ticketed
- <http://www.dorsetcountymuseum.org/events>

Shaftesbury & District Archaeology Group:

- St Peters Hall, Gold Hill, Shaftesbury.

Wareham: Wareham and District Archaeology and Local History Society

- Meetings are at 7.30pm on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, unless otherwise indicated.
- The venue is Wareham Town Hall (on the corner of North Street and East Street).
- <http://wareham-archaeology.co.uk/>