

Founded 1983

# East Dorset Antiquarian Society

Charity No: 1171828

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## NEWSLETTER – May 2018

### Notes:

**EDAS May Lecture:** is by Robert Bewley who is Project Director of the EAMENA project <http://eamena.arch.ox.ac.uk/>. The aim of the project is to document the archaeological heritage of much of North Africa and the Middle East and provide a database of sites in the region from prehistory to the early modern period while accessing any threats they may be facing.

**Visit to British Museum:** The Wareham Archaeology and Local History Group and EDAS are organising a group visit to the British Museum on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> September. Travel will be coach and it will cost a mere £17.00. See page 5 for further details. Don't delay book today.

**Proposed Dorset National Park:** EDAS has been approached by the team who have launched a proposal for a new National Park to cover parts of Dorset and East Devon. There is an article on page 6 of the newsletter providing further information. The committee are considering their response to this intriguing idea. We are focusing primarily on the impact on archaeology but also considering other factors, such as congestion. If you have any thoughts about this please make them known before 4th June.

**Travelers' Tales:** This month we can enjoy another great article by Geoff Taylor about a visit he and Sue made to Villa Oplontis and the Bay of Naples written.

**Links from the web:** each month Alan Dedden has been collating a list of the interesting items, primarily about archaeology, he has found on the web. He has also written a brief article about one of the items he found particularly intriguing. See pages 9 & 10.

**Next Season's Programme:** we are finalising next year's programme which will be published soon. See the list of excellent talks for the second half of 2018 listed on page 11.

*Please let us know what you think about the newsletter and any ideas how we can improve it.*

## **EDAS April Lecture: “The pick and the shovel are the only true discoverers of the past” by Tim Schadla-Hall**

On Wednesday the 11<sup>th</sup> April we had great pleasure in welcoming back Tim Schadla-Hall, Reader in Public Archaeology at the Institute of Archaeology at UCL and a long-time friend of the society. This was the fourth in the series of annual lectures hosted on our behalf by the Bournemouth University students' Archaeology, Anthropology and History Society. We thank the society and Tom Brown, this year's chair, for organising the event.

Tim gave a thoughtful discourse on the meaning and relevance of archaeology, how it has changed through the years and why it is popular with the British public. He reflected on the challenges facing archaeology and how its economic value is becoming of more import than its intellectual value. The title of Tim's talk is a quotation by John Dewey (1859- 1952) the American philosopher, psychologist and educational reformer, who emphasised the importance of experience over theory. He recognised learning as an active process in which students build upon their own experience and knowledge to construct new ideas for themselves.

Tim started with an explanation of how an interest in archaeology developed over the last few centuries from the hobby of a few enlightened antiquarians at a time when the acquisition of knowledge was respected and learned societies flourished. He mentioned the Literacy and Philosophical societies that were created as conversation clubs where members debated a wide range of issues; sensibly religion and politics were excluded. Tim took some pride in the Lit and Phil society of his home town Leeds which opened in 1819. The British Archaeological Association was founded in 1843 and the Royal Archaeological Institute (RAI) was founded in 1844 to cater for socially superior members. At its height the RAI had 15,000 members although this has fallen to a current membership of 2,000.

Soon it became fashionable for county societies to be established with the Dorset Natural History and Antiquarian Field Club being founded in 1850. Tim explained that the Dorset Museum and Library was separate and had been established in 1845 by the Reverend Henry Moule, supported by the poet William Barnes and the Reverend Charles W. Bingham. Their intent was to save the natural history and archaeology of a county at risk from the coming of the railways. For information it was not until 1928 that the museum was taken over by the renamed Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society.

An interest in the past is an intrinsic part of the human condition, people have a natural interest and respect for what went before. Politicians have long been aware of the importance and opportunities offered through archaeology, as George Orwell wrote in his novel 1984, “He who controls the past controls the future and he who controls the present controls the past”. This was well understood by many statesmen in the modern era who would use archaeology in different ways.

During the nineteenth century when the British were colonising southern Africa, they were keen to explain it was for the benefit of the indigenous noble savages. Their true motive was exposed when they were presented with archaeological evidence that challenged the lie. Archaeologists had excavated the ruins of Great Zimbabwe (the largest of over 200 settlements), a city which flourished from the 11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> century. The inconvenient truth that this sophisticated city was constructed by native black Africans was contrary to the political position. The archaeologists' reports were ignored and the ruins were said to be of Arabic origin. This fear of the truth continued into modern era when in 1932 the exquisite Golden Rhinoceros of Mapungubwe, was found in a royal grave from the ancient Kingdom of Mapungubwe (c. 1075-1220). It was ignored in South Africa because it contradicted the racist ideology of apartheid, which taught that history only began when the first Dutch settler arrived in Cape Town in 1652.

Kemal Atatürk the revolutionary founder of the Republic of Turkey was quick to recognise the power of archaeology. He wanted to create a modern secular country and realised that archaeology could help reveal the glory of a distant past and help undermine the power of the Islamic clerics. Many countries are now recognising the importance of their heritage and the associated archaeology. There is a growing demand for the repatriation of archaeological material that was taken or looted and they want its return. In 2011 Recep Erdoğan, the current

authoritarian president of Turkey, demanded that in return for granting a licence to allow German archaeologists to continue working they must return archaeological finds. First he demanded the return of a Sphinx sculpture that had been taken from the ancient city of Hattusa, capital of the Hittite empire. This was duly delivered and every year since more demands are made and more treasures are returned. Turkey has also demanded the return of the 1<sup>st</sup> century BC Samsat Stela which has been at the British Museum since 1927. In the past western countries would claim that these objects were held in our museums for their own protection but that explanation is no longer valid. For example since the 1980s the Greek Government has officially asked for the return of the Parthenon Sculptures (which include the Elgin Marbles) and they have constructed a purpose built Acropolis Museum at a cost of £115 million, which awaits the return of the sculptures.

Tim mentioned that colleagues from overseas were quite impressed by the general level of interest shown by the British public for archaeology. But he explained that ironically this does not reflect the position of British government. In most European countries the state has a much better understanding of the importance of archaeology and better controls to ensure it is protected, whilst in Britain the state is trying to reduce the controls and the level of its responsibility. It is indicative that Britain has yet to adopt the Valletta Treaty, agreed in 1992; it deals with the protection, preservation and scientific research of our European archaeological heritage.

He gave an overview of how archaeology has been managed in Britain. In 1971 the British Archaeological Trust was founded, by a team of leading archaeologists, as a pressure group. The Trust campaigns for government funds to permit the excavation of archaeological sites in advance of road-building, construction or other development. One of the most important and positive changes in recent years was the adoption of the Planning Policy Guidance 16: Archaeology and Planning (PPG 16), which set out to advise local planning authorities in England and Wales on the treatment of archaeology within the planning process. It was introduced in November 1990 following public outcry after a number of high-profile scandals. PPG 16 stressed the importance of the evaluation of a site for its archaeological potential in advance of development. From its inception our archaeological heritage was being considered properly and the developers had to provide the funding. This led to the rapid growth in commercial archaeology and the reduction of amateur led projects. Tim mentioned David Johnston's excavation of Sparsholt Roman Villa (1965-72). When the site monograph was eventually published in 2014, the work was described by Professor Martin Biddle as "one of the last triumphs of the age of the local volunteer...". It must be said that members of EDAS would refute this claim. Outraged developers claimed that PPG16 was too complex and caused delays in desperately needed new housing developments. In 2012 the government published the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which is a much reduced document, a mere 7% of the size of the preceding policy.

Tim also reflected on the worrying story of English Heritage which was formed by the government in 1983 to manage the national system of heritage protection and a range of historic properties. In 1999 the organisation merged with the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England and the National Monuments Record. In 2015, English Heritage was divided into two parts: Historic England, which inherited the statutory and protection functions of the old organisation, and the new English Heritage Trust, a charity that would operate the historic properties. The government gave the new charity an £80 million grant to help establish it as an independent self-financing body. The British government appears to be determined to deny its responsibility for our archaeological heritage and sees this as another opportunity for outsourcing and privatisation.

Even faced with these challenges Tim remains optimistic that the importance of our archaeological heritage will continue to be recognised. He emphasised the health benefits for people engaged in archaeology. Tim is a trustee of Waterloo Uncovered, a charity set up to support military veterans and I am sure that most of us will concur with his quote I took from their website "Archaeology, if conducted to the highest standards, is a better witness to the past than historical accounts. I have a long-standing view that archaeology – digging and related activity – is both therapeutic and stimulating, engaging all the senses."

We thanked Tim for a stimulating talk and for travelling all the way from London and we wish him a full recovery from his recent illness which he explained has affected his voice. We look forward to his next visit to EDAS in the near future.

**Andrew Morgan**

### Detected No 3: Crotal Bell – Druce Farm 2017

This charming item is called a crotal bell. It was found at Druce last year and it is about the size of a ping pong ball. Typically it was hung from the harness on a horse or wagon. It may have been used for decoration or just for the pleasant sound it made. We know that some travellers would use bells to announce their arrival at villages and towns. Was it attached to a peddler's cart as it travelled through the Copse below the Roman Villa site? Perhaps!



Another thought is that it could have adorned a horse harness, perhaps being a fashion item, to advertise the rider's wealth. We know that the harness of Henry VIII's steed, when he met up with Francis I of France at the Field of the Cloth of Gold, included numerous bells; some the size of hens eggs, and made of gold and silver. I can be relatively certain however that a Tudor Monarch never rode through our woods. Our bell is only bronze alloy and relatively small.

Farmers in medieval times were a superstitious bunch and there was another very important use for the bell; to ward off, or placate evil spirits. They would sometimes attach them to farm animals. As our bell is Post Medieval I think I will ignore this possibility.

This is all very romantic, but probably our bell was once attached to a farm animal that roamed in the nearby countryside. The sound would have helped the herdsman to track and recover his animals. This method is still used today in mountainous regions, where a crotal bell would be attached to the lead ewe or goat.

The word 'crotal' seems a certain descendant of the Greek word 'krotal' for a rattle or castanet. The history of bells can be traced back 3500 years. They are basically round in shape, pierced for acoustic and decorative effect, and sounded by the rattling of a loose clay, stone or metal ball, captured within the sphere. The way they are made can help us date them.

Between the 16th to 18th centuries bell founders put initials and emblems on crotal bells. Our one has WG on it. It is possible that these are the initials of William Gwynn 1770 – 1813, and almost certainly made at the Aldbourne bell foundry, in Wiltshire near Marlborough.

Crotal bells are found throughout the country, and are relatively common detectorist finds, but are seldom in the lovely condition of our bell which is complete and still rings.

**Karen Brown**

# The British Museum

## Visit the British Museum London

For members and friends of EDAS and the Wareham Archaeology and Local History Society, Lilian Ladle and Karen Brown are keen to organise a coach trip to the British Museum in London.

We would like to be able to fill a 53 seater coach, and then the cost would only be **£17** per person.

The proposed date is **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

The coach would pick up at Dorchester, Bere Regis and Wimborne. There is free public car parking in Dorchester and Bere Regis on a Sunday.

We anticipate arriving at the British Museum at around 11am and returning around 4pm. There will be a short comfort stop on the journey.

In order to confirm this trip we need to know whether it is viable or not. It is essential that we fill the coach in order to keep the cost low.

Could you please email Karen on [Karen.brown68@btinternet.com](mailto:Karen.brown68@btinternet.com) ASAP, as we have to let the coach company know by the end of May at the latest.

**Karen Brown**

### View from Above No 11: Banbury Hillfort (NGR 3789 1119)

Banbury Hill is a small univallate Early Iron Age hillfort enclosing approx. 3 acres (1.20 hectares) situated 2km south of Sturminster Newton.



*Photo by Sue and Jo Crane*

It is built on a slight rise of gravel. It has suffered from agricultural activities; the banks have been denuded by ploughing over the years and the ditches nearly infilled. The entrance is on the West side, it is a simple breach of the bank but staggered using an unusual design which provides a narrow entrance of over 75m in length..

**Andrew Morgan**

## National Park for Dorset – a Proposal

Many members may already be aware of the proposal for a Dorset National Park. The proposal put forward to Natural England by a cross-Dorset team reflects that first proposed on the 1945 official list of areas for NP designation. So it remains unfinished business!

A leaflet about the proposal, including a map of the suggested area, is on the NP website here:

<http://www.dorsetnationalpark.com/single-post/2018/03/27/Dorset-National-Park-Leaflet>. The latest newsletter: <http://www.dorsetnationalpark.com/single-post/2018/02/20/February-2018-Newsletter> refers to the

Government's 25 Year Environment Plan, its warm appreciation of the work of NPs and readiness to assess if new NPs are needed for the C21st. Natural England takes this proposal very seriously, and English Heritage has commented that the Dorset National Park's heritage is "gold standard." The newsletter also refers to Local Government Reorganisation: the Dorset NP would be an asset and close partner for the new unitary Dorset Council, working on a shared agenda for thriving communities and bringing additional resources to help support local services.

A National Park's statutory duties include to conserve and enhance the environment, wildlife and cultural heritage – which are Dorset's greatest economic asset - and to promote understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the area. The National Park would be the Planning Authority for its area and responsible for planning policies, the preparation of a NP Local Plan and Management Plan and for ensuring that relevant considerations including on heritage are taken into account in the processing of planning applications. The South Downs NP, designated in 2011, has shown this process in operation.

NPs are funded by central government core grant, not by residents and businesses, and the South Downs NP secured over £100m in its first 5-6 years. Such resources fund the work of the NP and its partner organisations on the environment and heritage, as well as benefitting communities and the economy. A Dorset NP would work with the new Dorset Council to benefit all of Dorset.

A NP would provide an economic stimulus to Dorset. Visitors to NPs spend more and stay longer and NPs have the resources and expertise to help manage visitor pressures, for example by promoting and funding sustainable transport and spreading the benefits to areas less frequently visited such as the N Dorset heritage towns.

***Sarah Brown***

***National Park Team***



## The Villa Oplontis and the Bay of Naples

Many will know that the Bay of Naples is an excellent holiday destination, with a wide range of possible activities in an ideal spring or autumn climate, even without visiting the offshore islands like Capri and Ischia with their varied attractions. There are many Roman, and even Greek, remains in the active volcanic landscape of the Campi Flegrei, or Phlegraean Fields, to the west of Naples. Naples itself repays several days, including the streets of the preserved Roman forum under the Centro Storico and the excellent archaeological museum with the best finds from Pompeii and Herculaneum.



The little known Cappella Sansevero, despite its small size and rather pricey entrance fee of €9, is a 'must' for its

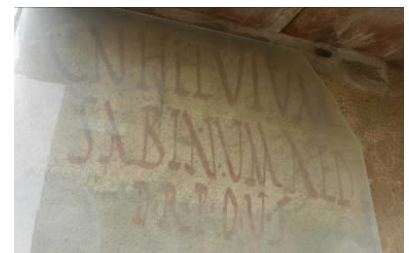
virtuoso 18<sup>th</sup> century sculptures, such as that shown. It's difficult to believe this was carved from a block of marble.



The lovely, if rather touristy, Sorrento is at the southern end of the bay and the Amalfi Coast beyond that. This article is, though, mainly concerned with a site in the central part of the bay under Vesuvius which, like Pompeii and Herculaneum, has been excavated after being buried by the volcano in AD 79. Of course, many Roman places were engulfed by the eruption and, indeed, are still being uncovered, particularly the high status villas overlooking the then coast. Villa Oplontis is one such *villa maritima*, probably an imperial villa as it is also known as Villa Poppaea and thought to have been used as a summer retreat by Nero's second wife, Poppaea Sabina.



All three of these sites can be reached from stations of the Circumvesuviana railroad between Naples and Sorrento with fairly short walks, the longest a few hundred metres for Herculaneum from *Ercolano* station. Pompeii effectively has its own station, *Pompeii Scavi*, whilst *Torre Annunziata* station between the 2 others takes you to the Villa Oplontis. If you haven't visited Pompeii then, I guess, it is a place that has to be seen. For us, though, it was a massive disappointment to go for a second time after a dozen years because of the deterioration of the site, despite the millions of Euros that must have been received from visitors. Streets shown on the site plan were, in fact, closed as unsafe or because walls had collapsed, and most of the original Roman signs were badly faded (that shown is the best I saw). Houses we had visited previously were now inaccessible, despite glowing descriptions in the otherwise excellent site guide; the rust on the locks across their gates showed that they must have been barred for years. Perhaps there have been improvements in the last 5 years from the well-publicised restoration plans though, as an *agriturismo* owner often said when we mentioned administrative inaction, "welcome to Italy".



Pompeii is, of course, always crowded but Herculaneum much less so; to my mind it is much more accessible and far better preserved. The villa, unless things have changed since 2012, is usually almost empty; there were no more than a dozen people there when we visited. In fact, the friend who recommended it said that it was so quiet that she and her friend fell asleep in the garden after a good lunch, and woke to find the site was closed and the gates locked. In those days, more than 10 years ago, the garden had been restored to its Roman form after careful excavation of root cavities, and analysis of seeds and pollen, showed where and what the plants had been. Now, sadly, much of that has been neglected so that some plants have died and others become overgrown, though apparently recent photographs suggest some improvements may have been made since my picture.



Administrative inaction was also apparent in the provision of guide books and maps, and gave a strong clue as to which nationalities visit the villa. We had to take Italian versions as there were none left in English or French. A

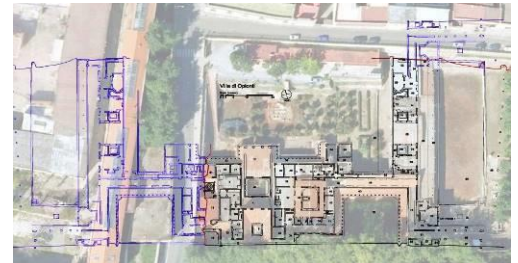


German lady had had to take a Spanish one and clearly understood it well, since she told us quite a lot when my limited Italian proved inadequate (often). However, the cracks and missing portions of the frescoes which are the glory of the villa aren't from neglect. When the villa was excavated from 1964



to 1984 it was found to have been a building site, probably work to repair the damage from the major earthquake of AD 62, by which time the villa was

The villa was buried about 10m below current ground level, helping to preserve the walls and paintings. About 90 rooms were excavated, including both living rooms and service areas (which include probable slave quarters), as well as male and female baths, several gardens and an enormous 70m long swimming pool. As can be seen, many more rooms are known to the west and north, with an unknown but probably large part still buried under modern buildings to the south.



Despite the passage of years and the earthquake of 62, many of the frescoes are in the Second (or Architectural) Style, implying that they survived from fairly early in the villa's history. Unlike the nearby 'Villa of Lucius Crassius Tertius' ('Oplontis B', not open to the public), little in the way of artefacts were found here nor any skeletons, so it seems that the building work was extensive and may well have included restoration of the wall paintings. I've shown a few of these, both from my own photographs and from the internet. The last one is a modern 'restoration' of the previous picture, done digitally by The Oplontis Project led by the University of Texas. This is a wide-ranging study, including excavations, which includes a digital restoration of the whole of the villa by King's College, London.



My recommendation if you're in the area would be to skip Pompeii and, instead, visit the Villa Oplontis and Herculaneum – possible in a day using the Circumvesuviana from either Naples or Sorrento.

**Geoff Taylor**



## Web Link Highlight - April

The story of the "cheating" dice gave me pause for thought. On the face of it, a very interesting discovery, and one that I am sure took all involved by surprise. Then I noticed the arrangement of the faces of the dice - the duplicated numbers are on adjacent faces, and are therefore very obvious when the dice is rolled. This would not seem sensible in an era when retribution for cheating is likely to have been swift and violent, particularly as money would almost certainly be at stake. Why make the "cheat" so obvious when a simple re-arrangement would have put the duplicates on opposing sides so they would not be there to see (or at least not so obvious) when the dice is rolled?

Looking at it in terms of probability, my elementary grasp of the subject suggests that the chance of duplicate faces being clearly visible to the observer (or victim?) is 1 in 3 for a single throw. The chances rapidly approach 100% as the number of throws increases, and as you postulate there would be more than a single observer.

Why, then is this the chosen headline? My thoughts turned to headline writers trying to grab the attention of the scanning eyes of the reader. But reading further into the article it is the archaeologists who are making the claim! Is this a case of archaeologists stirring controversy in order to attract attention? Or have they just not thought about the practicalities of the adjacent faces? Is this dice actually part of a game we do not understand? Or is it a joke showpiece by the maker? Or am I just too cynical? What are your thoughts?

***Alan Dedden***

## April Web Links – compiled by Alan Dedden

**A14 Upgrade Exposes Many Unknown Sites:** <https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/uknews/work-to-upgrade-a14-near-cambridge-exposes-abandoned-medieval-village/ar-BBKLvDQ?ocid=spartandhp>

**Prehistoric Footprints On Canadian Island:**

<https://www.theguardian.com/science/2018/mar/28/footprints-sand-scientists-prehistoric-canada-british-columbia>

**After Last Month's Link About Ships Ballast, An Example From Australia:**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-australia-43551015>

**New Greco-Roman Temple Found In Egypt:** <https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/world/greco-roman-temple-uneearthed-in-egypt/ar-AAvuAGS?li=BBBoPWjQ>

**New Land Drawings Found In Peru:** <https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/world/exclusive-massive-ancient-drawings-found-in-peruvian-desert/ar-AAvwyPi?li=BBBoPWjQ>

**David Reich - The Father Of Ancient DNA Studies:** <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-43701630>

**88000 Year Old Finger Bones Found In Saudia Arabia:** <https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/world/88000-year-old-finger-bone-pushes-back-human-migration-dates/ar-AAvGhmU?li=AAmiR2Z&ocid=spartandhp>

**Was The Heel Stone On Salisbury Plain Before Stonehenge?:** <https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/techandscience/stonehenge-rocks-in-place-millions-of-years-before-humans/ar-AAvG5Mh?li=AA9SkIr&ocid=spartandhp>

**Source Of Gold Hoard Identified:** <https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/world/origin-of-mysterious-2700-year-old-gold-treasure-revealed/ar-AAvHyPd?li=AA9SkIr&ocid=spartandhp>

**Exploring The North Sea For Mesolithic Settlements:** <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-43711762>

**Strange Medieval Norwegian Dice:** <https://www.livescience.com/62273-cheating-medieval-dice-norway.html>

**Ancient Shark Fisherman Buried With Extra Limbs:** <https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/world/ancient-shark-fishermen-found-buried-with-extra-limbs/ar-AAvQEke?ocid=spartandhp>

**Chance Find Of Harald Bluetooth Hoard:** <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/apr/16/treasure-of-legendary-danish-king-bluetooth-uneearthed-in-germany>

**5400 Year Old Cow With Mystery Hole In Skull:** <https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/world/a-5400-year-old-cow-skull-reveals-the-popularity-of-a-bizarre-ancient-surgery/ar-AAw3K7Q?ocid=spartanntp>

**Ancient Mass Child Sacrifice:** <https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/world/exclusive-ancient-mass-child-sacrifice-may-be-worlds-largest/ar-AAwmEnL?li=AAAnZ9Ug>

## EDAS PROGRAMME 2018

Date	Event	Who	Title
Wed 9 May 2018	Lecture	Dr Robert Bewley	Endangered archaeology in the Middle East and North Africa.
Thurs 10 May 2018	Visit	Julian Richards	Stonehenge – Access to the Stones FULLY BOOKED
Sat 9 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> June 2018	Field Trip	Geoff Taylor & Andrew Morgan	An exploration of the archaeology of SE Wales FULLY BOOKED
Date	Event	Who	Title
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2018	Lecture	David Jaques of Buckingham University	Blick Mead Mesolithic site – key to the Stonehenge landscape?
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2018	Lecture	Abi Coppins	The Honour of the Nation: Black Prisoners of War at Portchester Castle 1796-1814
Wed 14 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2018	Lecture	Dr Margaret Cox	'The Lost Soldiers of Fromelles: Naming the Dead, 1916-2020
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2018	Lecture	Phil Judkins	Chess - The Air War Over Britain and Germany

**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 of interesting events held in the area. We cannot be held responsible for the arrangements so please check on the associated web-sites.

### 2018 Programme

Date	Event	Group	Who	Title
Sat 3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	Conference	CBA Wessex	Alice Roberts, Steve Mithen etc	CBA Wessex 60 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference 'Dawn : New light on our earliest ancestors up to the hunter-gatherers of the Mesolithic'

#### 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.

#### Blandford Museum

- Events held at different venues

#### 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/>