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East Dorset Antiquarian Society

Charity No: 1171828

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NEWSLETTER – Mid Summer 2018

Notes:

EDAS September Lecture: “Blick Mead Mesolithic site – key to the Stonehenge landscape?” by Professor David Jacques. You will remember that last year David was forced to cancel at the last moment because of a rail strike, and we were delighted when he agreed to reschedule the talk. Look forward to seeing you on Wednesday 12th September.

EDAS Worth Matravers Excavation: the monograph of this important excavation written by Lilian Ladle will be published later this autumn as a British Archaeological Reports (BAR) monograph. In celebration we are organising a seminar to be held at the Dorford Centre, Dorchester on 1st December 2018 (2.00 – 5.00pm). Professors Niall Sharples and David Hinton have confirmed their availability as guest speakers. Further information will be provided in due course.

EDAS 2018 Field Trip: this year’s field trip to SE Wales was very successful, that is the sun shone, there were no fatalities and everybody was still talking to Geoff and me at the end of a full week. You will have received an electronic copy of the journal written by the members and compiled by Vanessa. This was the twenty eighth field trip organised by EDAS, if anybody is interested in arranging a trip for next year please contact one of the committee members.

Congratulations: the Priest’s House Museum has been awarded a National Lottery grant of £982,200 towards its Revival Project. In particular we recognise the special contribution made by EDAS members Vanessa Joseph and Sara Marshall, who ran the volunteer fundraising team which raised a significant proportion of the required partnership funding. EDAS has supported the initiative from inception and several members are actively involved with the museum’s community fundraising campaign “Sponsor an Object” which is ongoing. (See page 9).

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

EDAS May Lecture: Endangered Archaeology in the Middle East and North Africa, Robert Bewley

We were pleased to welcome back Robert Bewley who is Project Director of the EAMENA project. 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.

I'm sure that at some point during the talk, a number of people in the audience cast aside the years and silently wished that they were young enough and able to join Robert in the field to help with this important work. This was almost like a boy's own adventure, hanging out of helicopters, taking photographs of unknown archaeological sites in some of the most dangerous countries in the world. A quest to record the archaeology of the Middle East and North Africa before they are destroyed by the terrorist or the farmer.

EAMENA was established in January 2015 to respond to the increasing threats to archaeological sites in this area. It is based at the Universities of Oxford, Leicester, and Durham. The project uses satellite imagery to rapidly record and make available information about archaeological sites and landscapes which are under threat.

EAMENA have created a spatial database which provides fundamental information for each site, including the level of risk and how each site relates to one another. It will be accessible to all heritage professionals and institutions with an interest and passion for the wonderfully rich and diverse archaeological heritage of the Middle East and North Africa. Not all damage and threats to the archaeology can be prevented, but they can be mitigated and so at the core of the project is the desire for excellence in heritage management. To this end, EAMENA works with relevant authorities on the ground to limit likely damage, share information and skills, strengthen networks and raise awareness. Fieldwork and outreach are essential components of the project and the EAMENA team will target investigations to the most threatened sites, visiting (where possible) to assess site conditions, make detailed records and liaise with national authorities to share data and findings.

The threats are real and worrying and can be classified as: agriculture, conflict, construction, natural erosion and looting. To cope with growing populations, and taking advantage of technological advances, industrial scale agriculture is spreading over land once regarded as marginal or unsuitable, where archaeology remained untouched. Now it faces the dangers of terracing, irrigation, deep ploughing, planting large scale orchards which all have a detrimental impact on actual or potential archaeology. Archaeology is usually regarded as a problem not a resource, if considered at all. Conflict provides many threats, whether it is casual destruction, a sort of "kilroy was here" statement by a bored US marine, or the deliberate removal of cultural symbols that are no longer tolerated by deranged zealots. A relentless explosion in population results in uncontrolled development and a breakdown in law and order provides an opportunity for looting, financed by the unscrupulous rich, who live beyond the law. In a way natural erosion seems the least difficult to cater for.

Of course none of the above threats are new, enter any medieval church and we can see the signs of desecration by the zealots of our recent history. Archaeology in the British landscape has suffered the consequences of modern agriculture with deep ploughing and neglect. It is the speed of change and the awesome power of modern day technology that allows destruction on a scale previously not possible.

Check out their web-site for further information <http://eamena.arch.ox.ac.uk/>.

Andrew Morgan

EDAS Day Visit - Stonehenge 2018

It may be that people can be divided into those that are captivated by the enduring mystery of Stonehenge, and those that are, at best, ambivalent. Several on the visit this year were also on last year's visit, and would no doubt go again if the opportunity arises. I definitely fall into that category. My grandmother, however, was out of a different mould and told my father - who had gone well out of his way to take her there - "I don't know what you see in this place - it's just a load of old stones!"

The 2018 day at Stonehenge reversed the itinerary of the previous year by exploring the landscape first and ending with an hour in the stones at sunset. And what a sunset! We were incredibly fortunate with the weather as the sun shone all day and set behind the stones in a clear sky. I reported Julian's commentary in last year's notes and will not repeat it here, but if you want to read it, you can find it here:

<http://www.dorset-archaeology.org.uk/newsletters/2017-07.pdf> - in the 2017 Midsummer newsletter.



Julian explaining the Stonehenge cursus

hope that this issue will come to the front of the queue once (if?) the A303 is resolved.

During this part of the walk, we were "inspected" by the army from their Apache helicopter. Undeterred, we continued past the cursus barrows and then up the avenue from Stonehenge Bottom (at which point Stonehenge is hidden by the folds of the landscape) to get the full effect of "the reveal" as Stonehenge appears as you approach. This approach is always dramatic and this day was no exception as the sun was getting lower.



The Army checks out a strange group wandering about the landscape



The "Free Stonehenge" encampment

Passing the "Free Stonehenge" demonstration bus (I did not understand this until I found out it was about free entry - a lost cause I feel) we got the bus back to the visitors centre for a short time to explore the neolithic huts and the exhibition, then on to Durrington Walls and Woodhenge. These monuments may not have the visual impact of Stonehenge, but there are many mysteries to discuss here and it is a shame that so few people take the time to see them and hear the various theories about the part they played in the Stonehenge saga.

When planning the visit I had contacted the "Stonehenge Inn" to arrange for a buffet meal to simplify ordering and minimise waiting for meals. On the first call the person I spoke to told me that it could be difficult as they were expecting "a large party of paras at 7pm" and it could get crowded. I was not too concerned but did not want any complications, so called again a few days later thinking I could adjust the timings and be there earlier. But this time I spoke to the manager and he re-assured me that the group was parachutists (a somewhat different proposition), and they would be in a separate room at the back of the Inn! Fortunately all went well and we enjoyed a good meal at the Inn.

Everybody congregated at the visitor centre at 7.45pm to get the bus to Stonehenge and were delighted to see that the sky had remained clear in the west (and most of the rest as well). The evening sun on the stones certainly adds to the atmosphere and most of the party took the opportunity to take photos. Obviously, this was not the solstice, but fortunately the sun went down between stones 22 and 23 providing a beautiful conclusion to another wonderful day at and around Stonehenge.



Julian's commentary was given real atmosphere by the setting sun casting shadows on and around the stones

After the visit many of the group have taken the trouble to tell me that they had a fantastic day, and of course I have passed this on to Julian. It is his knowledge and enthusiasm that makes these days special, and this year the weather also played a big part.

Alan Dedden

View from Above No 12: Dungeon Hill Hillfort (NGR3689 1074)

Dungeon Hill is a univallate Early Iron Age hillfort enclosing approximately 3.5 hectares situated 2km north of Buckland Newton approached from the B3146.



Photo by Sue and Jo Crane

The remaining earthworks comprise a single bank and ditch although there are traces of an additional bank on the eastern side. The internal bank remains quite impressive and in places reaches over two metres in height. The entrance is located on the south side, two other breaks in the bank are considered to be modern. The internal area has been ploughed and no features are visible. design which provides a narrow entrance of over 75m in length.

Andrew Morgan

DRUCE UPDATE – THE LAST TRENCH

We have just (almost) completed the outstanding excavation work on the Roman Villa features and will spend the rest of the summer investigating an area where we have found a Neolithic feature.

Last year we were delighted/excited/jubilant/ecstatic /relieved when we found a prehistoric feature. It contained pottery sherds and flint artefacts that Lilian indentified as Early Neolithic. This was subsequently confirmed by Prof Tim Darvill and Julian Richards when they visited the site. The question was how early were the finds. Over the winter we had a number of soil samples processed from which we selected two charred grain seeds and a piece of hazel nut shell which were sent to Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC) for radiocarbon dating. We thank the Shaftesbury Archaeology Society for making making a significant contribution toward this cost. The results of the C14 dating exceeded our expectations and we have the oldest radiocarbon dates for a Neolithic site in Dorset.

Over the last few weeks we have spent some time preparing the site for this season's work, moving an inconveniently positioned spoil heap. We thank Bernard and Liz Cox, who farm the area, who made available a state of the art digger and their nephew Ed who shifted approximately fifty tons in 60 minutes. And of course we remain indebted to Robert Heaton who with his fifty year old JCB is removing the top soil.



Andrew Morgan

Druce Diggers – as you've never heard them before - on Radio 4

The EDAS team at Druce recently featured in BBC Radio 4's Sunday programme "Broadcasting House" in the "Slow Radio" slot.

Here is a link to the **audio clip** which starts at 15.30 into the programme and ends at 17.18.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b0b9v6d5>

I was delighted when the Editor wanted to run the clip. If you like it, you can download it for posterity. It was broadcast on 15th July at very short notice.

Some people have asked: who was involved in such a high-profile event? I can reveal that the stars were Phil d'Eath, David Long and Alan Dedden who were busy trowelling in the Roman area in very dry conditions, completely oblivious of the fact that I was recording them.

Vanessa Joseph

FUND RAISING

As you will appreciate the cost of running an archaeological project is quite high, especially for a voluntary society. These are mainly spent to employ experts to undertake post excavation analysis and prepare detailed reports for publication. There are some incidental costs but of course the project could not run without the volunteers giving their time and covering their own expenses. Over the years we have received a number of donations from a variety of organisations and individuals including significant contributions from the landowner.

The latest award is £1000 received from the Mick Aston Grant which is managed by the CBA. This will go towards the Environmental Programme for the Neolithic Project. We thank Vanessa who made the application.

EDAS awarded a Mick Aston Archaeology Fund Grant for Druce Farm Neolithic Project

Council for
British Archaeology



Historic England

The East Dorset Antiquarian Society (EDAS) has received a grant of £1,000 from the Mick Aston Archaeology Fund towards the costs of the Druce Farm Neolithic Project. This project will investigate Early Neolithic features discovered during excavations in 2017 and set the results within their wider landscape context. The grant will be used to commission specialists to perform analysis and prepare a detailed assessment report on soil samples from two pits and a number of postholes. The Council for British Archaeology's Mick Aston Archaeology Fund is supported by Historic England.

Last summer, excavations at Druce Farm Roman Villa revealed an area with Neolithic features. Large numbers of finds were retrieved from a ditch-type feature and included pottery of the early Neolithic carinated bowl tradition and flintwork of the same date. Radiocarbon dating of a charred wheat grain and hazelnut shell confirmed that activity took place in the early fourth millennium BC. The potential domestic character of the site is of high regional importance.

The Druce Farm Neolithic Project will be carried out by EDAS members and volunteers as a community project under the supervision of Lilian Ladle, MBE, and Prof. Timothy Darvill (of Bournemouth University). The team comprises 20 EDAS members/volunteers with the desire and ability to excavate, who come from a wide range of ages and backgrounds. The grant will enable EDAS to gain a better understanding of the environmental potential of the excavation area allowing the site directors to develop and undertake a realistic and tailored environmental sampling strategy during the field work.

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 30th 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 ASAP, as we have to let the coach company know by the end of May at the latest.

Karen Brown

National Park for Dorset – a Proposal

You will recall that we have been approached by the team behind the proposal to designate an area including the Dorset AONB as a National Park. They asked whether we would support the proposal put forward to Natural England by a team for a new Dorset National Park.

We did some research and asked members for their views about the proposal. This was less straight forward than expected and a number of real concerns were raised some by residents of the New Forest National Park.

We were pleased that Sandra Brown representing the Dorset National Park team attended the last EDAS Committee meeting held in June to make her case and to discuss the concerns raised by members.

From the meeting we concluded that the national Park status offers significant potential benefits with regards care for the environment and cultural heritage. We were influenced by the statement contained within the first of the three statutory responsibilities: to conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the area. We were pleased to learn that the Dorset National Park will have some responsibility with regards to Planning Applications and believe that archaeology will be better considered than at present.

Because one of the key objectives of the society is to help promote the preservation of our archaeological heritage we have provided qualified support for the proposition.

Nevertheless there remain a number of other concerns and these were included in our reply:

1. **Traffic Congestion:** many members expressed their concerns about road congestion, especially during the summer period. They are worried that designation as a National Park would exacerbate the problem by increasing the number of tourists, most of whom will probably arrive by road from the east.
2. **Displaced Pressure:** we are concerned that the benefits and protection enjoyed by the area designated within the National Park does not result in greater pressure and challenges being placed on the rest of Dorset which could be considered less important.
3. **Accountability:** the councillors who will manage the National Park will be appointed, there is a concern that they will not be directly accountable to the electorate for this responsibility.
4. **Value:** there is a question whether this extra layer of administration can deliver tangible value for the cost. Even though the costs will be covered from the national coffers, we are all taxpayers.

Andrew Morgan



**Funding raised by
The National Lottery**
and awarded by the Heritage Lottery Fund



Wimborne's Priest's House Museum awarded National Lottery grant for Revival Project.

The Priest's House Museum and Garden in Wimborne has been awarded a National Lottery grant of £982,200 towards its Revival Project. This will enable the museum to fund improvements, enhance the visitor and volunteer experience and ensure that the Museum is fit for the challenges of the 21st century. The Revival Project will start in autumn 2018 and will be completed by spring 2020.

The museum building and adjoining Tourist Information Centre (TIC) building are formed of one original Grade II* listed townhouse. This exciting project will include:

- improving the visibility of the museum through an enhanced frontage
- creating a new combined visitor reception, shop, TIC and information point
- installing a lift, enabling all abilities to access first-floor galleries for the first time
- updating and upgrading exhibition and display space
- enhancing the story of the historic townhouse itself by telling the story of the building and the people who have lived in the house, Wimborne and East Dorset
- establishing new formal and informal learning and community programmes
- building new opportunities and training for volunteers
- Initiating more outreach programmes to the villages of East Dorset.

The total value of the project is £1.6 million. The National Lottery funding has been awarded through the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). The museum has committed over £200,000 of its own reserves and the volunteer fundraising team has been successful in achieving a significant proportion of the partnership funding from charitable foundations including Garfield Weston, the Talbot Village Trust and the Valentine Trust; and local councils East Dorset District Council and Dorset County Council.

The local community and local businesses Bloor Homes, Teacher's Building Society and Renaissance Homes have also supported the project.

David Morgan, Chairman of the Priest's House Museum Trust said: "We are delighted to have received the support of the National Lottery for our Revival Project. The Trust is committed to giving the people of East Dorset a museum of which they can be proud, a place which engages with all sectors of the local community as well as the many tourists who visit our beautiful town. Thanks to HLF and our very generous supporters, we can ensure that the museum will be enjoyed for generations to come.

We still need to raise a further £80,000 in funding and we hope we can do this through grants from trusts and foundations and donations from the community. Our volunteer fundraisers will continue to work hard to achieve this."

Museum Director, Emma Ayling said "The Trust's vision is the one held by its founder, Hilda Coles, who believed that the museum should be: a 'live' museum - a centre of education and culture, continually changing its displays and appealing to children as well as to adults'. We will be asking the community to support us, through volunteering, and there will be many opportunities for people to be involved and to gain new skills. In the meantime, watch this space."

Nerys Watts, Head of HLF South West, said: "Thanks to National Lottery players, the home of the history and story of East Dorset will be fit for the future and for modern audiences. We're delighted to support this project, which will transform the access and facilities of the museum, provide some fantastic opportunities for volunteers and ensure the area's heritage is shared more widely than ever before."

Vanessa Joseph

May/June Web Links

Stone Tools Push Back Hominins In The Phillipines to 700,000 Year Ago

<https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/world/700000-year-old-stone-tools-point-to-mysterious-human-relative/ar-AAwFBtk?ocid=spartandhp>

Footprints On The Saudi Peninsular Point to Earlier Human Migration

<https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/world/85000-year-old-footprints-show-stepping-stone-in-human-migration/ar-AAxhFbh?ocid=spartandhp>

"Tomb Raiders" Lead To Extraordinary Discovery

<https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/offbeat/extraordinary-discovery-revealed-by-tomb-raiders-secret-tunnels-under-pompeii/ar-AAxle3P?ocid=spartandhp>

New Dating For The Shigur Idol

<https://www.theguardian.com/science/2018/may/20/shigur-idol-shatters-expert-views-birth-of-ritual-art-hunter-gatherers>

More Discoveries On The Pompeii Horses

<https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/world/horses-found-in-pompeii-may-have-been-harnessed-to-flee-eruption/ar-AAxKIIG?ocid=spartandhp>

Pompeii Victim

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-44303247>

Metro Works In Birmingham Uncover Cobbled Road

<https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/uknews/stunned-construction-workers-uncover-roman-or-saxon-road-perfectly-preserved-under-the-streets-of-birmingham/ar-AAyW6v2?ocid=spartandhp>

Shipwreck Looters Jailed

<https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/uknews/shipwreck-looters-who-plundered-historical-artefacts-from-royal-navy-warship-at-bottom-of-the-sea-jailed/ar-AAz1PKP?ocid=spartandhp>

Search For Lost Standing Stones In Devon

<https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/uknews/archaeologists-begin-hunt-for-mysterious-lost-devon-standing-stones/ar-AAzdtlo?li=AAAnZ9Ug>

Neolithic Ritual Site Discovered In Suffolk

<https://www.theguardian.com/science/2018/jun/28/archaeologists-stumble-on-neolithic-ritual-site-in-suffolk>

Note: More links at the bottom of the above article.

"Sleeping Beauty" Found In Siberia

<https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/world/archaeologists-find-sleeping-beauty-mummified-corpse/ar-AAzeGRQ?ocid=spartandhp>

"Hand Of God" Found At Vindolanda

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/hand-of-god-ancient-roman-hadrians-wall-sculpture-bronze-found-latest-a8419131.html>

Thousands Of Aztec Human Sacrifice Skulls Discovered

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-5893933/The-horror-Aztec-tower-skulls-revealed.html>

Headless Pompeii Victim Not Crushed

<https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/world/headless-pompeii-victim-wasnt-crushed-to-death-after-all/ar-AAzsqD2?ocid=spartandhp>

Ancient Chinese Royal Burial With Horses

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5910021/Remains-burial-horses-2-700-years-ago-tomb-Chinese-aristocratic-family.html>

Find May Be Earliest Written Extract Of Homer's Odyssey

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2018/jul/10/earliest-extract-of-homers-epic-poem-odyssey-unearthed>

Possible Evidence of Roman Whaling

<https://www.theguardian.com/science/2018/jul/11/romans-had-whale-industry-archeological-excavation-suggests>

Egyptian Archaeologists Prepare To Open Large Granite Sarcophagus

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/jul/12/archaeologists-open-huge-granite-sarcophagus-alexandria-egypt>

Earthquake Reveals Aztec Temple

<https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/world/earthquake-reveals-1000-year-old-aztec-temple/ar-AAzXHMS?ocid=spartandhp>

Crop Marks In The News

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-edinburgh-east-fife-44812713>

Stone Tools Found In China Could Put Migration Out Of Africa Back To 2.1 Million Years Ago

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/jul/12/stone-tools-china-could-be-oldest-evidence-human-life-outside-africa>

The Iceman's Last Meal

<https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/world/5300-years-ago-ötzi-the-iceman-died-now-we-know-his-last-meal/ar-AAzYWZG?ocid=spartandhp>

Ancient Egyptian Mummification Workshop Found

<https://phys.org/news/2018-07-archaeologists-egypt-mummification-workshop.html>

Alan Dedden

Hominin Migration Still A Grey Area

The collection of weblinks for this newsletter contains three items relating to hominin migration, and there have been others in recent months. New finds are constantly changing our view of hominin evolution and how they populated the planet. These discoveries are happening at such a pace that it is difficult for even those of us with more than a passing interest to keep up, let alone the casual observer.

The recently broadcast Alice Roberts series looking at *Homo Sapiens* migration out of Africa "**The Incredible Human Journey**" was fascinating. Alice is a marvellous communicator (she is, after all, Professor of Public Engagement in Science at the University of Birmingham) but I found myself wondering what the fuss was about, given that Boxgrove Man showed that *Homo Heidelbergensis* made it to these islands by at least 500000 years ago, predating *Homo Sapiens* by at least 400000 years. Then I discovered that this was a repeat and that the original series had aired in 2009. I cannot remember if the recent broadcasts were labelled (R) - for "repeat" - in Radio Times, but then not all repeats are so labelled. This can be for a variety of reasons, such as minor editorial changes (for instance to adjust the run time) or because it is on a different channel, but there appears to be little consistency. All very trivial but it does not help when you are trying to put the programme in context.

To add to the above confusion, theories that the various hominins evolved in parts of the world other than Africa are gaining traction, so watch this space.

The constant refinement of this and most of the rest of prehistory is part of its fascination and re-enforces yet again the old maxim, absence of evidence is not evidence of absence. It just means we may not have found it yet. On a personal note but related to hominin migration, I came across an item about the first dogs in the Americas (<https://phys.org/news/2018-07-dogs-america-siberia-european-contact.html>). Not, as had previously been thought, native domestication of grey wolves but domesticates that migrated from eastern Asia with humans. The work also shed light on the effects of European colonisation of the Americas. This interested me as Lindsey and I were privileged to have four huskies and naturally I was curious about the history of the breed. I think I now need to rethink that history - or wait for the next discovery!

Alan Dedden

EDAS PROGRAMME 2018

| Date | Event | Who | Title |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|--|---|
| Wed 12 th Sept 2018 | Lecture | Prof David Jaques of Buckingham University | Blick Mead Mesolithic site – key to the Stonehenge landscape? |
| Wed 10 th Oct 2018 | Lecture | Abi Coppins | The Honour of the Nation: Black Prisoners of War at Portchester Castle 1796-1814 |
| Wed 14 th Nov 2018 | Lecture | Dr Margaret Cox | 'The Lost Soldiers of Fromelles: Naming the Dead, 1916-2020 |
| Sat 1 st Dec 2018 | EDAS Seminar (2-5pm) | Various | Launch of the Worth Matravers Excavation monograph with Prof Niall Sharples and David Hinton. More details to follow. |
| Wed 12 th 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 rd Nov | Conference | CBA Wessex | Alice Roberts, Steve Mithen etc | CBA Wessex 60 th 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/>