East Dorset Antiquarian Society

Charity No: 1171828

Founded 1983

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NEWSLETTER – February 2019

NOTES:

The EDAS February Lecture: we seem to be concentrating on the Neolithic at the beginning of the year, following the excellent lecture by Kath Walker on Neolithic axe-heads this month's talk by Ben Buxton, a local archaeologist and museum curator, is entitled Orkney and Beyond which will explore the incomparable Neolithic monuments.

A View from Above No 16: we continue the theme for this month's aerial photographs taken by Sue and Jo Crane and I have chosen two fine photographs of another enigmatic Neolithic monument Silbury Hill near Avesbury (see page 5).

Government Proposed Changes to the Treasure Act: not before time the government is considering a radical change to the definition of treasure so that finds worth more than £10,000 will be considered treasure irrespective of material. Now we just have to ensure that Michael Ellis the Heritage Minister delivers something meaningful (see page 6).

Dewlish Roman Villa Mosaic sold privately: and a related story about a local treasure displayed in Dewlish House that recently has been sold by the owners for £30,000 and lost to the people of Dorset and (see page 7).

Weblinks: another list of interesting weblinks collated by Alan Dedden (see page 9).

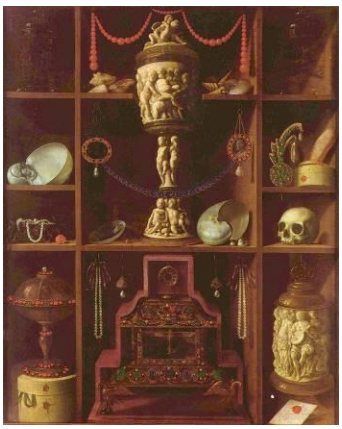
Hengistbury Head Conference: we are invited to an interesting conference about the archaeology of Hengistbury Head, including talks by Profs Tim Darvill, Nick Barton and Barry Cunliffe as well as Kath Walker, to be held at Bournemouth University on 6th April. It will be followed by a walk over Hengistbury Head on 7th April when future research opportunities will be considered (see pages 10 &11).

Andrew Morgan

EDAS Lecture: *Neolithic Imports or Collectors' Losses? Continental Axe-heads in Britain* by Dr. Katharine Walker

Kath is a prehistorian specialising in the Neolithic of north-west Europe and has become something of a magnet for stone and flint tools, including 'our own' as she's examining the flints found at Druce. In fact, several axe-heads were brought along by members for her to see. Kath works at the New Forest Heritage Centre in Lyndhurst and, most recently, also part-time as Curator at Hengistbury Head. Her doctoral research and thesis, the basis of this presentation, was completed at Southampton University in 2015.

The basic research question is a simple one – did the beautiful stone axe-heads found in Britain but apparently made on the Continent come here during the British Neolithic, *c*.4000-2200 BC? Finding the answer is obviously not simple and this was a real detective story, perhaps the ultimate 'cold case' – the original protagonists gone over 4,000 years and more recent ones, like finders or the original museum curators, rarely still with us. Documentation, if much exists, can be tantalisingly incomplete or uncertain – something like "found at Newton Peverill between 1847 and 1869" (the one shown) hardly gives confidence about its accuracy or, indeed, narrows down the location. In some cases documentation exists but the object has been 'lost' somewhere along the line. If this summary sometimes makes the research and analysis seem fairly straightforward, it clearly wasn't.



Stone axe-heads were important to Neolithic people, judging by the materials chosen, the skill and effort needed to produce them and where they were often deposited, especially watery contexts and marginal land. Being stone, they tend to survive well, whilst their forms and beauty also mean that they resonate with us today, and have done for hundreds of years. When found, they may have ended up in a museum but have also been sold and collected for centuries, perhaps finding their way into antiquarian 'cabinets of curiosities' like that pictured. Hence, understanding the life histories of these artefacts partly involved an understanding of collectors and collecting, e.g. by trawling through auction catalogues and details of the sales of collections. Buying and selling almost inevitably gives rise to forgeries, another area for Kath to understand, not least about 'Flint Jack', i.e. Edward Simpson, a notorious forger of antiquities in the 19th century.

Being able to identify, and distinguish between, British and Continental artefacts partly came through visits to museums in Europe and throughout the UK, as well as discussions with their experts. This was the basis of Kath's catalogue, added to from information in the National Monuments Register, more local Historic Environment Records and the Portable Antiquities Scheme. A thorough trawl of county archaeological journals, especially older issues, brought out even more examples. The resulting updated catalogue of imported axe-heads, including details of the credentials of each item, was a vital evidence base for Kath's analysis, but is also very important as a springboard for the future.

Essentially, the imported axe-heads fell into four types, most commonly and perhaps most importantly those of Alpine jade with 119 examples. Here, Kath was able to build on the work of the French *Projet JADE*, which tracked the distribution of over 1800 axe-heads across Europe from quarries high in the Italian Alps, through re-working and finishing sites in the Paris Basin and even in Brittany. Although British and Irish finds are on the fringes of the distribution, findspots are

widespread and quite a few are in Dorset, such as that above and ones from Down Farm and Parkstone. Perhaps the most significant nearby find is the Breamore axe-head shown, now held in Devizes Museum, where *Projet JADE* analysis found the exact source of the jade. This was produced relatively early, around 4600 BC, so before the British Neolithic.

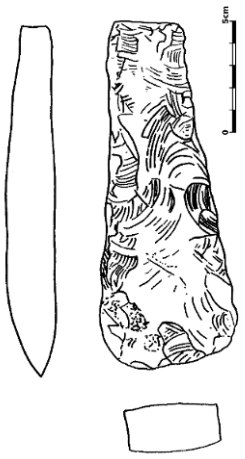
In fact, the view was that the importing of jade axe-heads, as prestige, ceremonial and even sacred objects, was heavily involved in the process of 'Neolithization'. However, a Dorset find from Wootton Fitzpaine is believed to have arrived considerably later, perhaps around 3000 BC. Only two are from securely dated contexts, e.g. one found beside the Sweet Track in Somerset (shown) and dated to 3806 BC. Kath's further analysis mapped the 41 find spots clearly known and looked for possible associations with Late Mesolithic material. In fact, not only could she find no direct and conclusively Mesolithic links, few of the finds could be positively associated with the Neolithic.

The next group were those of Breton origin, just 5 of metadolorite like the example shown from Moordown, on display in Christchurch Museum (two possible examples of fibrolite are now lost and unable to be studied). Kath also found a further likely example in Shrewsbury Museum and evidence that further searches could well produce more Breton imports. These types of axe-head have proved difficult to classify and study in the past, but the source of the stone was found in 1964, in central Brittany, with systematic study subsequently revealing large-scale production and even the hollows in rock outcrops where the stone was shaped and polished. Where the provenance is known, these axe-heads do show likely associations with Neolithic material.

What Kath has called 'Crudwell-Smerrick' axe-heads are a broad group made from a good quality marbled flint, but categorised under various names. The example shown was found in Pembrokeshire and is held by Tenby Museum. Although these are described as "fine and distinct", opinions are divided over both their source and form. A 2004 publication suggested they originated from Denmark, though Kath showed us photographs of Danish examples to back up her view that these are different. In fact, analysis suggests the flint may have come from the east coast of England, probably a long-lost cliff face south of Flamborough Head.

The final group are axe-heads said to come from Scandinavia, particularly rectangular sectioned flint axe-heads. Finds of objects identified as such peaked heavily in the first half of the 20th century, e.g. the one shown below was found at Canford and published by C.M. Piggott in the Dorset Proceedings, vol.67, as "A Flint Axe of Scandinavian Type". As early as 1924, a strong warning was given against accepting such items as Neolithic imports found in Britain without very good evidence, as many had clearly been bought relatively recently whilst some were fakes, sometimes even

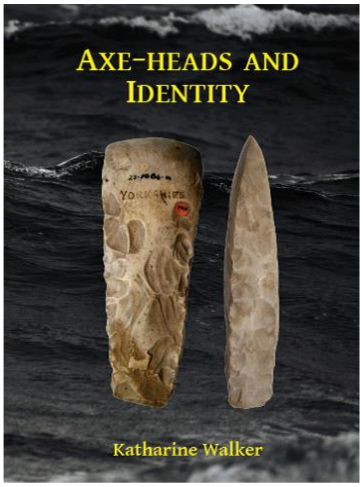
known to be attributed to Flint Jack. Closer examination of claims for Neolithic pottery being imported from Scandinavia shows them to be uncertain at best, whilst Kath saw that the axe-heads displayed in Denmark's National Museum are both larger and of considerably better quality than those claimed to have been found in Britain.



The identification then effectively rests on the only example apparently found in a sealed and dated context. This was a "Scandinavian-type" flint axe-head said to have been found within Julliberrie's Grave, a long barrow in Kent, dug by antiquarians and then excavated in 1936 and again in 1938. The 1938 excavations were specifically to try to find conclusive evidence of a Neolithic date. Kath found that the site director was called away and then, a few days later, the axe-head was found and excavation work ceased! She feels that the object may well have been planted! It is now (conveniently?) lost.

In summary then:

- Jade axes were special, even sacred, objects brought from the Continent, some of which were integral to the Mesolithic-Neolithic transition, although the arrival of most in Britain remains undated.
- Breton axe-heads, of which more are likely to be identified, can be categorised as genuine Neolithic imports with a distribution in the south-west of England.
- Crudwell-Smerrick types are more likely to come from our east coast than the Continent.
- And, while the majority of so-called Scandinavian axe-heads are unlikely to be Neolithic imports, around 50 could have arrived towards the end of the Neolithic period in Britain as objects with long use-lives.



Despite several knowledgeable people thinking it would prove too difficult for Kath to obtain useful results, when studying the Scandinavian axe-heads, she obviously did succeed in drawing valuable conclusions. This summary can only give a flavour of Kath's presentation, let alone of her work overall. Those wishing to know more about the research and results are recommended Kath's book *Axe-Heads & Identity*, published by Archaeopress in 2018. It also looks at the significance of these artefacts to the Neolithic peoples and the implications of their movement across the Continent and to Britain, the ultimate aim of the work though only briefly considered here.

N.B. The images of the Moordown and Canford axe-heads are ©Katharine Walker.

Geoff Taylor

View from Above No 16: Silbury Hill

Silbury Hill is part of the amazing Neolithic complex found near Avebury in Wiltshire. This artificial chalk hill is 129ft high (39.3m) and is the tallest prehistoric man-made mound in Europe and covers about 5 acres (2 ha).

Photos by Sue and Jo Crane

This immense structure was constructed between c.2400–2300 BC and displays great engineering skill. It is estimated that it took 18 million man-hours, equivalent to 500 men working for 15 years.

The sheer scale of these monumental prehistoric structures is so impressive and it raises interesting questions about how it was achieved and what social structures were in place. The ability to take a vision and to successfully implement it requires a large number of people and a wide range of skills. They represent a sophisticated system of planning, organisation and management. How did they acquire and manage the resources and arrange the logistical support? How did they impose the discipline and control? And foremost how did they communicate the detailed plans and instructions to make this happen over several generations?

At least with Silbury Hill the materials were at hand, in that the material for the mound was extracted from quarries cut into the surrounding land, as shown in the stunning photograph on the left showing the water filled quarries in the winter photograph. The challenges facing the construction of Stonehenge, where some of the materials had to be extracted and transported from the Preseli Hills in Pembrokeshire, are significantly greater. Today such a project would require the co-operation of several international corporations.

There are few artefacts associated with the hill, and its purpose will probably never be understood. There is a suggestion that it was the process of building that was important, a shared community experience. I find that unsatisfactory to explain the sustained commitment required to build this monument, surely it had a purpose beyond the act of construction. And even today it continues to capture the imagination and make a bold statement in the landscape.

Andrew Morgan

POTENTIALLY GOOD NEWS

Government Proposes Changes to Treasure Act

New plans are being proposed by the government that will redefine treasure so more archaeological finds can be protected for the nation. The proposals aim to clarify, improve and streamline the process for reporting treasure to ensure that museums can continue to acquire important finds for the nation. First step is that the proposals will go through a process of consultation. If successful these measures will be the first major changes since the Treasure Act came into effect in 1996.

Under the plans the definition of treasure will be changed so that finds worth more than £10,000 will be considered treasure and made available for acquisition by museums.

Currently artefacts over 300 years old, made of gold or silver or found with artefacts made of precious metals where an owner cannot be found, can be officially designated as treasure, and therefore become the property of the Crown. Treasure is then offered to local or national museums for public display.

Each year, dozens of items of national importance are believed to be lost to private sellers because they do not meet the treasure criteria or are sold by those who do not declare the find.

These include the 1,700 year old Roman era Crosby Garrett helmet that was found by a metal detectorist in 2010. Despite its archaeological importance, because the helmet was made of a copper alloy it did not meet the treasure criteria and was sold to a private collector for £2.3 million.

A blatant inadequacy of the current legislation is that there are no sanctions on someone who knowingly buys an unreported find and the growth in online markets has given opportunistic finders an outlet to sell unreported finds under the radar. The changes will also mean that the duty to report treasure will be extended to those acquiring it.

More items than ever are being discovered by treasure seekers across England, Wales and Northern Ireland with the number of finds increasing by over 1,500% since 1996. The latest figures show that 2017 was a record-breaking year for treasure finds with a total of 1,267 items unearthed. In the last 20 years, 13,000 finds have gone through the treasure process of which over 30% are now in museums.

Personally I would like a review of how the market value of such treasure is allocated. Currently the full maket value is allocated between the finder and the landowner. I suggest this is too generous and imposes a high cost on museum acquisition funds which often come from voluntary donations. Also I would like the archaeological experts who sometimes help excavate, identify and conserve the artefacts to be properly compensated. Better if all such artefacts were designated property of the Crown (ie. the state) and that the landowner and finder were awarded a more sensible percentage of the value.

If you have any thoughts about this subject do let me know and I will collate your views. There may well be an opportunity for the society to comment during the period of consultation.

Andrew Morgan

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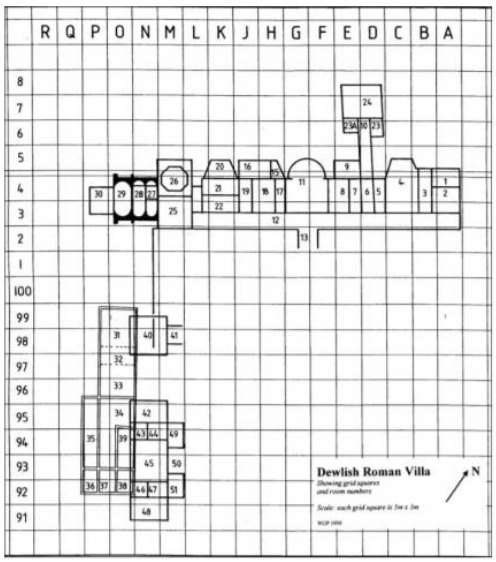
Dewlish Roman Villa Mosaic Sold Privately

Sadly, part of a figured, 4th century mosaic from the Dewlish Roman villa has been sold at auction. The sale, on 6th September 2018 at Duke's Auctioneers in Dorchester, raised £30,000; the buyer wished to remain anonymous.

The fragment was one of the better-preserved areas of mosaic from a large, centrally placed, apsed room (Room 11), thought to be the summer *triclinium*, or dining room. It was uncovered in 1972 and, within a guilloche border, depicts a leopard pouncing on a Dorcas gazelle, an animal that would have been familiar to a designer with experience of the North African coast. It is likely to be early 4th century in date and has been attributed by some to the Durnovaria School of Mosaicists (my knowledge isn't good enough to confirm this, though the panel is clearly not of the quality seen in the best pavements by North African mosaicists at that time). The smaller photograph showing the full extent of the fragment, maximum size 237x190cm, comes from the auctioneers' website, the closer view from the villa excavations.

Dewlish Roman villa first came to light in 1740 when mosaic was revealed after a storm uprooted a tree, as recorded in Hutchins *History and Antiquities of the County of Dorset* (1863, originally 1774). It seems that more was then uncovered and left exposed for the curious to see. About 50 years later, part of the villa was uncovered again but the records give little of use and the finds are now lost.

The early interventions and later ploughing clearly caused much of the damage found when the villa was excavated under the direction of W.G. ("Bill") Putnam from 1969 to 1979. This was mainly a training exercise for students, so that a box-grid system was used despite it being thought of as obsolete by then, and it seems that most of the work was effectively 'wall-chasing'. The resulting villa plan is shown here, taken from an article in *ARA News* 34 (the newsletter of the Association for Roman Archaeology); the grids are 5m square and the 50cm baulks aren't shown. The article is available online and contains a good deal more about the villa, excavations and post-excavation work, some of which is described below. (http://eprints.bournemouth.ac.uk/23454/1/ARA%20News%2034%20-%20Dewlish_v2.pdf or just Google 'Dewlish Roman villa'!)



Up to 1975, reasonably informative reports of the excavations were published in the Dorset Proceedings, but they became shorter and less useful thereafter. No excavation report had appeared by Putnam's death in 2008 and, it seems, there wasn't even a draft. However, since 2010, Bournemouth University staff and students, under the direction of Iain Hewitt and Miles Russell and with help from several other institutions, have been conducting detailed post-excavation analysis with a view to publication. The latest news suggests they may well achieve that this year.

Following the excavations, two substantial mosaic panels were lifted from the area of the bathhouse, as was the leopard and gazelle panel. The remaining pavements, some of good quality and some in a reasonable state, were reburied to preserve them. The then owner of Dewlish House lent the bathhouse panels to Dorset County Museum, where they remain. One, showing a procession of sea creatures, was mounted and hung in the reception area and can be seen on the Museum's website. The leopard and gazelle panel was also mounted and has been on display in Dewlish House for over 40 years, but was put on sale by new owners. Unfortunately, Dorset Museum couldn't afford to buy the mosaic, which isn't covered by the legislation on the sale or exportation of antiquities, art or other cultural material. Discussions continue about the legal status of the loan panels in Dorchester Museum.

Unfortunately, there now seems to be a very good chance that the leopard and gazelle mosaic, an important piece of Romano-British archaeology, will never be seen again. On the other hand, we have Bournemouth University to thank that we should, in the not too distant future, be able to fully understand and appreciate the Dewlish Roman villa.

Geoff Taylor

Urban Jungle To The Rescue

In 2016 when we were finishing work on the Druce Roman Villa site we had to move a large stone artefact weighing about 100kg. It was the only surviving plinth of the eight which would have supported the wooden pillars that held up the roof of the aisled hall on the east range of the villa. It features an inset for the post which was a Roman square foot in size. Barry Cunliffe explained that it was very rare to find a plinth with an inset.

Thankfully Tim and Rich of Urban Jungle came to our rescue. They had visited the site on an Open Day and had stayed involved. They run a gardening company and relished helping when we back filled the site moving tonnes of soil by shovel and barrow. They sorted out moving the stone plinth to the Druce Farm barn that we use to store the finds. As we prepare to start the post excavation work in the barn the plinth needed to be moved. Tim and Rich came to the rescue again and made a purpose built wooden trolley. Recently we went to Druce and they picked up the stone (these are strong young men used to lifting) and placed it on the trolley enabling it to be easily pushed into a convenient out of the way corner.

All I can say is a big thank you to Tim and Rich, and I would like to take this opportunity to recommend Urban Jungle for all your gardening needs: landscape design & construction, garden & plant maintenance.

email: urbanjungles@hotmail.co.uk or Tel: 07715 161702

Andrew Morgan

WEBLINKS – January

Not many in the web list this month - and two of those on the list I only found when looking for the original National Geographic article of King Tutankhamun's tomb curses, which I could not find initially. However, when I tried a different search result it led me to a different National Geographic website and there I found the article. The article itself is actually more interesting than the headline would suggest (not another story about the tomb curses?). It is mainly about the conservation work and ongoing and future threats to the tomb (and many other antiquities). The new curses turn out to be newly discovered notes asking for the dead king's blessing and "pharaonic curses on other people".

The item on the mystery woman buried in Ljubljana, Slovenia also caught my eye. The mystery surrounds the identity of a woman buried in some style, and who's tomb originally had some sort of small chapel or mausoleum, later enlarged. The tomb is in a much larger cemetery which may have grown around the tomb, but later Christian burials were placed within the chapel. These later burials date to the later Roman period and before Emona was sacked by the Huns, but a glass bowl found in the woman's tomb dates from around 300BC (the article does not say how the bowl was dated). Since the Roman settlement of Emona started in the early 1st century AD, the implication is that the woman's tomb existed before the Romans arrived, either that or the glass bowl survived for up to 500 years before being placed in the tomb. Further work on the woman's remains will be carried out and should then reveal the approximate date of her death, and from that more will be understood about the sequence of events and which point in the Roman story she became important. For more on the city of Emona I recommend a website I came across whilst trying to find out a bit more than was contained in the National Geographic article - https://www.culture.si/en/Emona,_Legacy_of_a_Roman_City

Weblinks List

Pirate Ship Grenade Found On Cornwall Beach
https://www.livescience.com/64395-sunken-17th-century-pirate-ship-discovered.html

Temple Of "Flayed Lord" Found In Mexico
https://www.nytimes.com/2019/01/03/world/americas/xipe-totec-flayed-lord.html

Lidar Reveals Extent Of Lost City Of Kweneng In South Africa
https://www.theguardian.com/cities/2019/jan/08/laser-technology-shines-light-on-south-african-lost-city-of-kweneng

Antony And Cleopatra's Tomb To Be Excavated?
http://royalcentral.co.uk/historic/cleopatras-grave-reportedly-finally-located-114567

Capt Flinders Grave Found During HS2 Excavation
https://www.theguardian.com/science/2019/jan/25/grave-of-matthew-flinders-discovered-after-200-years-under-london-station

Mystery Roman Grave Found In Slovenia
https://www.nationalgeographic.co.uk/history/2019/01/mystery-surrounds-woman-unearthed-archaeologists-early-christian-cemetery

Facial Reconstructions On Display At Brighton Museum & Art Gallery

https://www.nationalgeographic.co.uk/history/2019/01/look-familiar-you-these-facial-reconstructions-reveal-40000-years-english-ancestry

More "Curses" Found In King Tutankhamun's Tomb
https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/world/new-curses-emerge-from-tuts-history-making-tomb-study/ar-BBSYmq3?li=BBoPWjQ

Alan Dedden

Archaeology of Hengistbury Head: Past, Present, and Future Conference

6 – 7 April 2019
Bournemouth University and Hengistbury Head Visitor Centre

Hengistbury Head has been the scene of settlement and ceremony for more than twelve thousand years. But it hasn't always been that way. For much of early prehistory it was a headland overlooking the confluence of the River Avon and waterways long ago submerged by the rising sea. In later prehistory it was first an extensive and richly furnished barrow cemetery, and later one of the largest trading ports on the coast of southern Britain with connections southwards to France and Spain. In post-Roman times it was an important source of minerals. Several campaigns of excavation between 1911 and 1979 on the Head have revealed the quality, quantity, and extent of occupation and the changing intensity in the use of this extraordinary landscape. Forty-years on from the last main campaign of fieldwork it is time to take stock of what we know, how understandings have changed over the decades, and where we might take research over the next few years.

This two-day event is organized jointly by the Hengistbury Head Visitor Centre and Bournemouth University aims to explore the current state of knowledge about the site and its environs from prehistoric time to the present day, and develop an agenda to help structure further work.

Saturday 6 April 9:30 – 17:00
Bournemouth University (Kimmeridge House, Talbot Campus, BH12 5BB)

09:30 – 09:45 Welcome and Introduction Professor Tim Darvill (Bournemouth University)
09:45 – 10:15 Geology and ecology of Hengistbury Head Peter Hawes
10:15 – 11:00 Ice Age landscapes and hunters at Hengistbury Head Professor Nick Barton. (University of Oxford)
11:00 – 11:30 Refreshments and displays
11:30 – 12:15 Early Neolithic Hengistbury and the lower Avon valley Dr Kath Walker (Bournemouth Borough Council & Bournemouth University)
12:15 – 12:45 Later Neolithic Hengistbury Head and its context Dr Julie Gardiner
12:45 – 13:00 Geophysical surveys at Hengistbury Head Dr Eileen Wilkes (Bournemouth University)
13:00 – 14:00 Lunch
14:00 – 14:45 A gateway to the Continent: the Early Bronze Age cemetery at Hengistbury Head Dr Clément Nicholas

14:45 – 15:30 Iron Age and Roman communities at Hengistbury Head Professor Sir Barry Cunliffe (University of Oxford)
15:30 – 16:00 Refreshments and displays
16:00 – 16:45 Post-Roman Hengistbury Head and the vision for the Visitor Centre Mark Holloway (Bournemouth Borough Council)
16:45 – 17:00 Discussion
17:00 – 18:00 Wine reception and networking

Sunday 7 April 9:30 – 15:00 Hengistbury Head Visitor Centre (Bournemouth, Dorset, BH6 4EN)

09:30 – 12:30 A walk on the Head Led by Mark Holloway, Gabrielle Delbarre, and Dr Kath Walker
12:30 – 13:30 Lunch
13:30 – 15:00 Formulating an archaeological research agenda for Hengistbury Head 2020 to 2025. A workshop facilitated by Professor Tim Darvill and Dr Kath Walker

Further details and an on-line booking form can be found on the meeting Eventbrite page at: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/hengistbury-head-past-present-and-future-tickets-54965394976

EDAS PROGRAMME - 2019

2019			
Wed 13th Feb 2019	**Lecture**	**Ben Buxton**	Orkney and Beyond
Wed 13th Mar 2019	**EDAS AGM**	**AGM followed by Geoff Taylor and Andrew Morgan**	2018 EDAS Field Trip: archaeological adventures in SE Wales
Wed 24th Apr 2019	**Lecture**	**Mark Corney**	Annual Bournemouth University Lecture – Title to be confirmed
Sun 28th Apr 2019	**Guided Walk**	**David Reeve**	Wimborne – the final walk by David revealing the historic town of Wimborne through the C18 and C19th
Wed 8th May 2019	**Lecture**	**Dave Stewart**	Once Upon a Hill: a study of Dorset hillforts

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 6th April	**Conference**	**BUni**	**Various**	**Archaeology of Hengistbury Head: Past, Present, and Future (see EDAS Feb Newsletter p.11 &12)**
Sun 7th April	**Walk and Discussion**	**BUni and HH Heritage Centre**	**Prof Tim Darvill and Dr Kath Walker**	**Hengistbury Head and future research**

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/