East Dorset Antiquarian Society

Charity No: 1171828

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Founded 1983

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NEWSLETTER – May 2019

Notes:

April Lecture: CANCELLED. On the day of the lecture Mark Corney was rushed to hospital, suffering from pains in the chest. We were relieved to learn that he had been diagnosed with pneumonia and discharged on the following Saturday. Apologies to those who turned up at the university, thankfully I only counted six members. Mark has offered to reschedule the talk, we'll try and fit him next season at St. Catherine's Hall as an additional event.

May lecture: by EDAS stalwart Dave Stewart who will talk about the iconic hillforts of Dorset that featured in his impressive book: "Hillforts and the Durotriges" co-written with Miles Russell.

2019-2020 Programme: has been completed and a printed copy will be available at the next EDAS meeting. We will send all members a PDF version by email. See page 15

Treasure Act Consultation: recently the government ran a public consultation about potential changes to the Treasure Act. We were not contacted directly but a colleague from another society sent the details. There allowed only a short period to respond so the committee answered on behalf of the society. Geoff Taylor has prepared an explanatory article see page 7.

Final Guided Tour of Wimborne: On 28th April David Reeve led a group of about thirty members and guests around Wimborne explaining the radical changes that have occured since the eighteenth century. He brought history to life by including many anecdotes of local inhabitants, rich and poor. This was the third and final tour by David and we thank him for guiding us through the ages of Wimborne starting with the Saxon origins of the town. David will provide an article about the walk for the next newsletter.

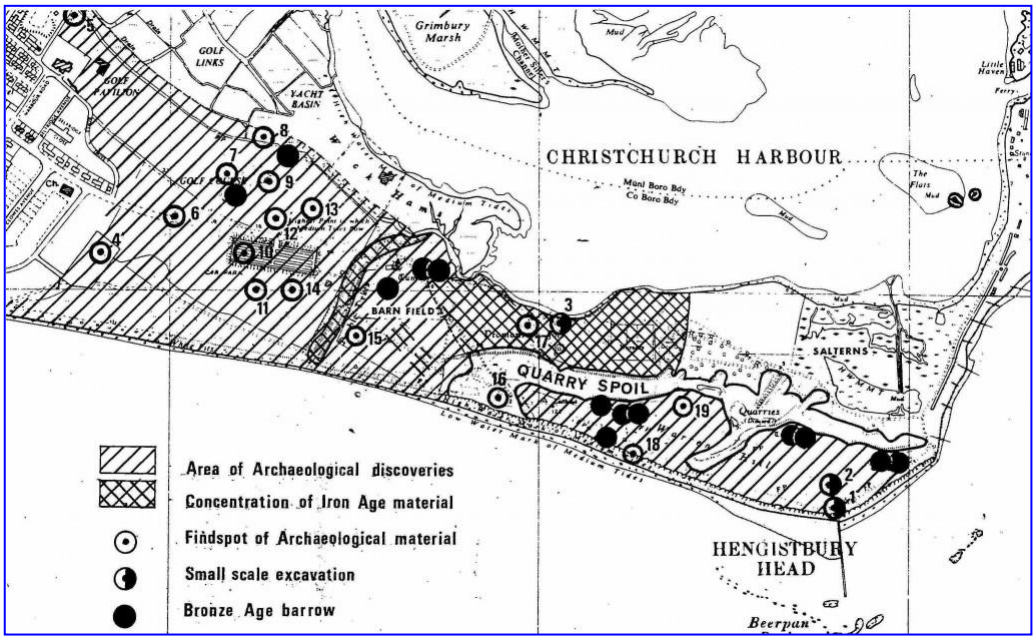
Conference: Archaeology at Hengistbury Head - Past, Present and Future

Over the first weekend of April we were treated to an excellent conference and field walk dedicated to the archaeology of Hengistbury Head, a place of settlement and ceremony for more than twelve thousand years. It is a natural gateway between mainland Europe and a large part of southern Britain.

The conference was a joint initiative by Bournemouth University and the Hengistbury Head Visitor Centre now run by the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Unitary Council (BCP). It was chaired by professor Tim Darvill and Dr Kath Walker. More than twenty EDAS members attended the event and we must praise the organisers for the excellent list of speakers. It was a case of friends reunited as most of the speakers like Barry Cunliffe, Nick Barton and Julie Gardner had worked on archaeological excavations undertaken between 1979-1985. Mark Holloway has spent 40 years working on Hengistbury Head dealing with the challenge of maintaining this complex natural and archaeological environment whilst providing access to large numbers of the general public and their dogs (1 million people and 250k dogs annually).

Peter Hawes started the day by explaining the geological factors that have shaped this very volatile landscape. He explained that the Alpine Orogeny (65mya–2.6mya) -the collision of the African tectonic plate into the Euroasian plate – not only resulted in the great mountain ranges of Europe and Asia, but also created the familiar geological features in England such as the Hampshire Basin. This formed a liminal environment with extensive estuaries of rivers that drained from the west and north. It was a land of slow flowing rivers, lagoons and regular marine incursions that resulted in the deposition of the sands and clays that form the bedrock of SE Dorset. At the end of the Ice Age c. 20kya the global climate began to warm and rising sea levels started to transform the landscape. Britain remained connected to the continental Europe until c. 8kya when the channel flooded and the chalk ridge that ran from the Purbecks to the Isle of Wight was breeched. Peter explained that Hengistbury Head only survived because it was protected by a resistant geological layer, comprising great nodules of ironstone (siderite) which are known as doggers. As the coast eroded doggers fell to the beach and created a natural defensive barrier. Without the protection of Hengistbury Head, Bournemouth Bay would have been exposed and the length from Poole to Hurst Castle would have become a single large bay removing much of the land that now supports the urban conurbation. This stability was threatened in the nineteenth century when JE Holloway held the quarrying rights to the headland and between 1848 – 1870 he removed vast quantities of the ironstone. He ignored the concerns raised by various people and continued with his relentless extraction that led to the loss of about half the headland. Much money has been spent trying to stabilise the promontory ever since.

Nick Barton explained that by c. 12,600 BP people began to return to southern Britain, a time referred to as the Late Upper Palaeolithic period. The promontory dominated the landscape, it provided shelter and offered a strategic vantage point over the surrounding area. It proved the perfect location for a seasonal hunting camp, to observe and prepare for the herds of wild horse and reindeer during the migration periods in spring and autumn. The land was harsh, a tundra landscape with few trees.



Areas of Archaeological Investigation
1,2 – Reindeer Camp, 3 - Iron Age Settlement, 18- Archers Camp

In preparation for a golf course in 1913 a substantial part of the Head was ploughed. Herbert Druitt, a local Antiquarian, employed men who collected thousands of flints from the ploughed area, some of which were recognised as Late Upper Palaeolithic artefacts. In 1957 Angela Mace excavated an area where she found an important flint assemblage dating from the same period comprising 2,263 items. The site is positioned in the Eastern Depression which offers some protection and was identified as a seasonal hunting camp and named the Reindeer Hunters'Camp. It is a rare example of an open-air lowland site, with most sites of this period being located in caves. John Campbell returned in 1968 and recovered a further 4,400 items. The camp is believed to have extended over ½ acre. Nick Barton and his colleagues carried out further work on the site between 1980-83. They undertook thermoluminesence dating on burnt artefacts resulting in a date c. 12,500BP +/- 1,200 years. Some 15,500 items have been found including 649 re-worked tools, making this one of the most important Late Upper Palaeolithic sites in Britain. The soil is very acidic so no organic material survives. Several flint cores have painstakingly been reconstructed from the debitage, which proves that the site has not been disturbed over the millennia. By recording the precise position of every artefact found on the site the team were able to identify three working areas: a knapping area for the production of tools, an area for repairing tools and the area where the tools were used in processing their prey. It should be noted that a skilled knapper can create about 50 individual blades from a hand-sized nodule of flint. Other interesting items include pieces of red ochre produced from the ironstone. There is also a very rare example of art with cross hatching found on

the cortex of a piece of flint. Examples of striped flint have also been found which potentially link the site to the major river systems in the Paris Basin.

Between 13k and 11kya, there was a climatic regression and glacial conditions returned (during the Younger Dryas c.11k-10kya) forcing people to leave Britain and move south. This was followed by a period of rapid warming, the start of the Holocene, and the spread of forestation with the early coloniser plants of pine, juniper, birch and hazel. This woodland environment supported a different variety of fauna with the introduction of animals such as; red deer, wild cattle (aurochs), wild pig and an abundance of wildfowl, people also returned. The different environment required different hunting skills and is the start of the Mesolithic, identified by the use of microliths and more complex tools and weapons suited to hunting game in enclosed spaces rather than the open range.

There are several Mesolithic sites in the area. The most significant is the Archers' Camp on Warren Hill and is now being eroded on the cliff edge. Examples of the artefacts found include scrapers, saws and small pointed flints used as compound arrow heads, which would have been attached to a shaft by twine and glue made from resin and honey. There were a number of artefacts made from chert and thermoluminescence dating tests have provided a date of c. 9200BP. Nick mentioned an archaeological experiment when he and Peter used a replica bow and arrows to shoot at the hanging carcass of a deer. The arrows easily penetrated the target and when they hit a bone the points broke with an impact fracture. This replicated the evidence found at the Mesolithic site where many microliths exhibited the same damage, suggesting they were removed from the carcass when it was being butchered. Other tools include sandstone rubbers for smoothing the shafts of arrows.

There are a number of burial mounds on the site with two long barrows from the Early Neolithic period. A number of diagnostic flint artefacts have been found including knives, borers, arrowheads and axes, suggesting activity during the Early Neolithic site. Rising sea levels, that continue today, have undoubtedly resulted in much of the prehistoric landscape being drowned in the harbour area. During the 1980s Julie Gardiner excavated an area called the Nursery Gardens, and she found evidence of a Late Neolithic settlement and transition into the Early Bronze Age. The flint assemblage was quite rich with 5% being diagnostic tools. There were substantial marine collections. Quantities of highly decorated Grooved Ware pottery has been found suggesting this settlement was of high status. The team also found a concentration of material from the Early Bronze Age beaker period through to the Middle Bronze Age. Julie suggested that the assemblage bore comparison to other similar sites known in Scotland at Luce Sands and Culkin, which also have a high concentration of high quality flint. All are sheltered bays offering safe haven sites, for exchange and manufacture. These coastal sites are identified as maritime Nodes and there are possibly 40 along the cost of southern England.

Climate fluctuations have continually affected this marginal environment and it is believed that at the start of the EBA 2000BC Hengistbury Head was effectively an island within wetlands and was possibly chosen by the local community as a place of burial. There are 13 round barrows associated with the Early Bronze Age period. The Gold barrow (30m wide and 2m high) near the visitor centre revealed some fabulous treasures, with an inverted burial urn containing the remains of a 20 year old woman, an incense cup, three amber beads, two gold sheet cones and a halberd pennant. This is a high status Wessex style burial and only one other has been found on the south coast.

Unfortunately most of the barrows have been disturbed by the unauthorised digging of enthusiastic antiquarians. These barrows can be compared to elite burial barrows that overlook safe harbours and inlets on the coast of Armorica. It has long been recognized that southern Britain (Wessex) and Armorica had strong links during the period between 2100 and 1600 BCE. Clement Nicholaus suggested that this could represent a shared territory that spans the channel, a "maritory" that facilitates communications between coastal communities. There are numerous examples of Armorican style items in Wessex.

Barry Cunliffe described the excavations that he led between 1979-1986, lasting three weeks per summer, when his team excavated the important Iron Age settlement and port located on the sheltered harbour shore. This is a large complex site stretching from the Early Iron Age through to the Roman period. There are a number of round houses represented by a large number of post holes and hearths, exhibiting signs that they were rebuilt. There is little evidence from the Middle Iron Age period (400-100BC) with small amounts of pottery and few features, suggesting a significant collapse in the local population or a major change in life style. The most evocative periods for the location are undoubtedly the first part of the LIA between 120BC – 50BC which is referred to as the contact phase. This is a period of opportunities and change and Hengistbury Head rapidly developed into one of the foremost trading centres between Britain and the continent. It acted as a hub both for British trade, along the river valleys and the coast, and from across the channel. There is a simple harbour with a sloping gravel bank for beaching trading vessels. Smaller vessels would have taken material alongthe rivers. From the sheer quantity of Gallic material, such as wheel thrown pottery and coinage it is possible that Hengistbury Head became a Gallic trading enclave. When the Romans took control of southern Gaul they started to trade their surplus wine. There is a great deal of foreign material found at Hengistbury Head including many fragments of amphora (all pre-dating 50BC), which were used to import large quantities of wine to be enjoyed by the British tribal elite. In return the British exported a range of commodities including: gold, silver, tin, copper, ironstone, salt, kimmeridge shale, hunting dogs, hides and of course large numbers of slaves needed to meet the rapacious demands of the Roman state. At least some of the metal working was done on site with evidence of small iron-ore smelting hearths on Warren Hill, as well as the working of lead, copper and silver.

This arrangement was destroyed with the Roman invasion of Gaul, led by Caesar. The Armorican tribes were very strong and their threat was dealt with severely by the Romans. The Veneti, who were the principle maritime trading tribe, were decimated with the males being put to death and the women and children sold into slavery. This led to the collapse of the cross channel trading network and it had an immediate impact on Hengistbury Head. The Romans moved their trade to ports further east along the British coast. However there is some evidence suggesting local trade may have continued and thousands of bronze coins have been found from the pre-Roman period. The vast majority were struck by the Durotriges, potentially them were minted here.

One of the striking features of the Head are the formidable double dykes comprising an inner bank three metres high, with a ditch three and a half metres deep and an outer ditch six metres wide and two metres in depth that is now obscured due to wind-blown deposits of sand and silting. Their age is not known but it is likely they date from the Late Iron Age period. We know that they have been significantly truncated due to erosion on the coastal side and rising sea levels on the harbour side. There are the remains of an earlier now defaced dyke situated 650m to the east. There is evidence

of extensive prehistoric settlement to the west of the double dyke that is being investigated through geophysical surveying being undertaken by Bournemouth University.

When the Romans invaded Britain they by-passed Hengistbury Head, they used Poole Harbour and Southampton Water as their entry points. In Roman times there is some evidence of activity but by the third century and early fourth century the land had reverted fully to agriculture represented by field boundaries and a low number of occupants.

For a fuller description of this very important archaeological site please visit the excellent exhibition at the Hengistbury Head Visitor Centre and the Red house Museum in Christchurch where many of the finds are deposited.

Andrew Morgan

View from Above No 19: Cerne Abbas Giant(s)

The **Cerne Abbas Giant** is 55m high and features a standing male figure in all his magnificent glory wielding a large club in his right hand. Like many other hill figures it is outlined by shallow trenches (0.6m deep) cut in the turf and backfilled with chalk rubble. The origin and age of the figure continue to be debated. Early antiquarians and local businessmen were keen for it to be a Celtic representation of the Greek hero Heracles and indeed the giant once displayed a folded lion skin over his extended left arm. However the absence of an earlier mention makes it more likely to have been created in the 17th century. Perhaps it originated just after the Civil War as political satire, possibly a parody of the fallen Oliver Cromwell.

Photo by Sue and Jo Crane

Regardless of its age, the Cerne Abbas Giant has become an important part of local culture and folklore, which often associates it with fertility. It is one of England's best known hill figures and is a visitor attraction in the region.

Needless to say the origin of the giant Homer Simpson character holds no mystery at all, it appeared in July 2007 as part of a film promotion. Being drawn in water soluble paint it quickly vanished. Perhaps in a hundred years time this too will be subject to some imaginative speculation.

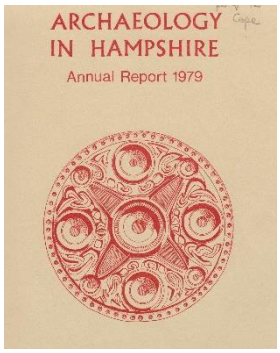
Jo Crane and Andrew Morgan

THE CHANGING FACE OF 'TREASURE'

For centuries the medieval law of Treasure Trove, suggested as dating back to Edward the Confessor early in the second millennium, applied in England (and subsequently in Wales and Northern Ireland) for finds of hidden precious metal objects (at least 50% gold or silver). This was based around the concept of ownership – that such precious items belonged to the original owner or heirs if they were buried with the intention of retrieval, or to the Crown if such person(s) couldn't be found – usually the case, of course. The practice of rewarding finders of Treasure Trove, if they had reported them promptly, started a little over a century ago. However, precious metal objects that had been abandoned no longer had an owner and belonged to the finder or landowner. Treasure Trove therefore didn't apply to objects hidden or buried with no intention of retrieval. So, for example, the Mildenhall Hoard of Roman silver was 'Treasure' but finds from the Sutton Hoo burial excavation in 1939, like the purse lid here, couldn't be 'Treasure' as there had been no intention to dig them up once buried.

Precious metal finds that were potentially Treasure had to be reported to the Coroner, who then had to hold an inquest with a jury to decide their position. Objects declared to be Treasure Trove were offered to relevant institutions, mostly museums; the rest and any not taken up by museums being returned to the finder(s).

This approach obviously gave some protection to some finds but, as with the objects from Sutton Hoo or because finds weren't of sufficient precious metal content, it had little regard for the historical or archaeological value of the majority of objects being found. This became increasingly important with the rise of metal detecting as a hobby during the 1970s and the increasing number of finds, seen both in the reports of potential treasure and the number of objects referred to museums for identification or accession. Museums were, though, often ill equipped to deal with the influx of finds. I remember from my own researches the changes in the *Archaeology in Hampshire Annual Report*: from 1977 (for 1976) detailed information was given on items seen by the museums, including at least 6-figure grid references, but by the late 1980s there was only a selection of casual finds, often without location details. In 1993 grid references were dropped (even for excavation reports!) and the reports were 'simplified' even further over the next few years.



This was also the time of the poorly conceived 'STOP' (Stop Taking our Past) campaign launched in 1980, incidentally the last year in which licences were needed for metal detectors, by archaeologists against metal detectorists. This fizzled out by 1983 but did considerable damage to relationships because of the invective alongside the relatively reasonable up-front message. Clearly, a great deal of potentially valuable information was being lost .

Eventually the government decided to do something and, after a period of consultation, the new Treasure Act was passed in July 1996. This doesn't apply in Scotland, with its own 'treasure trove' law, whilst reporting requirements are different in Northern Ireland where any search for archaeological objects requires permission. The Act did away with the medieval approach and focussed on giving museums the opportunity to acquire hidden 'objects of national importance for the public to enjoy', in most cases irrespective of whether originally buried with the intention of retrieval. Whilst the original owner (or heir) retains ownership where known, the primacy of the finder was removed by an underlying approach of splitting rewards between the finder and landowner. There was also a clearer and more professional approach to determining values for rewards, something that caused disputes (though it still does occasionally).

Items reasonably thought to be treasure must still be reported to the Coroner, who remains the arbiter, often now done via PAS (see below). With some small revisions in 2001, 'Treasure' can now be summarised as follows:

- Objects other than coins over 300 years old and with at least 10% of precious metal, or with any precious metal if prehistoric (i.e. pre-Roman).
- Any prehistoric metal item other than coins if there are at least 2 in association.
- Coins over 300 years old with at least 10% of precious metal if there at least 2 in association or with any precious metal if there are more than 10.
- Any objects associated with an object that is treasure.
- Objects under 300 years old that would previously have been treasure trove.

This approach was definitely an improvement in preserving archaeological items but did little to address the important issue of proper recording of finds in general. That did follow, though, with the creation of the Portable Antiquities Scheme ('PAS') and a pilot scheme of Finds Liaison Officers (FLOs) in 6 counties from September 1997, with a further 5 FLOs from January 1999. From 2003 coverage was extended to the whole of England and Wales, and there are now 36 FLOs and 5 expert Finds Advisers, as well as central support staff based at the British Museum. Amongst other things, PAS promotes best practice in dealing with finds, helps in identification and records the objects presented to it on a database, available to be searched by anyone. Despite being constantly under-resourced, PAS has proved very successful and the database now contains over 1.4m objects, most of which wouldn't have been recorded otherwise. It has proved invaluable as a research tool, for example underpinning the recent 3 volume Britannia monograph series *New Visions of the Roman Countryside*.

Of course, there remain flaws in the approach, to my mind stemming from the Act's starting point, i.e. unsurprisingly, "treasure" – which immediately brings to mind monetary value, rather than archaeological or historical value. The definitions above are rooted in this approach, particularly in excluding most items of base metal (or, indeed, non-metallic objects like glass or worked stone). Base metal items can, of course, have high monetary as well as archaeological value and an oft-cited example is the Crosby Garrett ceremonial cavalry helmet from the 1st or 2nd century AD. Found by a detectorist in Cumbria in 2010, it is made of copper alloy so, despite being of national importance, couldn't be defined as treasure. It was sold to a private buyer for £2.3m, outbidding the local museum. I should say that the majority of metal detector users are motivated more by an interest in the past than financial returns and, of course, the thrill of discovery – something that archaeologists aren't immunised against. Perhaps the helmet's finder was similarly motivated; the find was

reported, but that amount of money would turn most people's heads.

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport (yes, really) oversees the Treasure Act and its corresponding Code of Practice and has recently issued a consultative document on revising the code. There is a strong theme in the proposals of reducing costs by streamlining processes and trying to avoid waste, particularly as many objects defined as treasure are of relatively low monetary value, whilst numbers have increased considerably – from less than a hundred each year before 1997 to over a thousand each year since 2014. On the whole these proposals are reasonable, as is one to include single gold coins minted from AD43 to 1327 in view of their rarity (though we might prefer all gold coins).

Other proposals are less acceptable, e.g. to include as treasure any object valued at over £10,000 and to fix the end date defining treasure at 1714 rather than '300 years ago', on the basis that objects became more common after that because of increasing mass production. These ideas continue the confusion of monetary value with archaeological or historical value, when we would really have hoped, having lost the concept of 'treasure trove' over 20 years ago, for an approach that started from the latter. Whilst the £10,000 limit would, at least, have covered the Crosby Garrett helmet, it may well miss other objects of national importance but low monetary value. For example, one of the most important non-treasure items found recently by a detectorist in SE Dorset was a pristine copper alloy Middle Bronze Age Complex Anvil, used to fashion precious metal artefacts (PAS ref. PUBLIC-B21001). British Museum experts stated it to be of national importance with only 6 similar items found in Britain. It was, of course, reported and recorded, but has been returned to the finder who hasn't disclosed where it was found. This is priceless in research and display terms, but its monetary value may not be particularly high.

However, there does seem to be some recognition of the problems with the current approach in three suggestions for the future (as opposed to proposals for changes) near the end of the consultation document. We would definitely agree with these:

- To adopt a process similar to that in Scotland, which I would characterise as every find having to be reported and being the property of the Crown. Rewards are made for any item retained with everything else returned. This would, of course, allow proper recording of all relevant objects and retention of those of archaeological or historical importance.
- To strengthen educational outreach to the metal detecting community, though many of the organised detectorist groups have little need of this.
- To require a permit for any archaeological excavation as in Northern Ireland, though we would be looking for a clearly defined process handled at a relatively local level and not weighed down by bureaucracy. It would certainly be helpful if obtaining a permit included a requirement to publish.

Lets hope that there can be some forward movement on these ideas in rather less than the 23 years since the Treasure Act was passed.

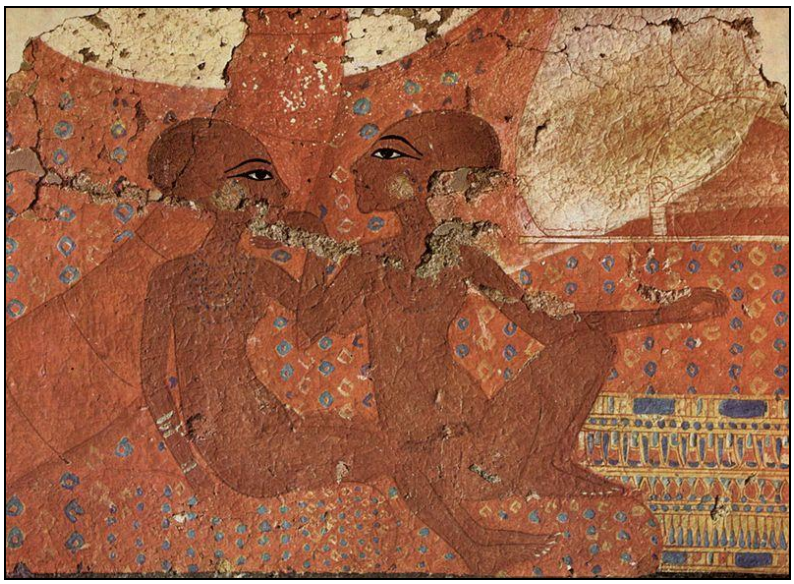
The consultation period has now ended and we look forward to hearing the conclusions. EDAS has made a response and you can contact me on geoffnsue@hotmail.co.uk if you would like a copy (the response includes summaries of the questions, but I can also supply a copy of the full consultation document if required).

Geoff Taylor

Day Visit to the Ashmolean, Oxford's Museum of Art and Archaeology

Sunday 29th September 2019. Cost £19.

This trip is jointly arranged between EDAS and the Wareham and District Archaeology and Local History Society. After the great success of the previous trip to the British Museum last year you are invited to come on a trip to explore the treasures in the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford.



Fragment of wall painting depicting the very affectionate Akhenaten and Nefertiti

The coach will pick up at Dorchester, Bere Regis, Wimborne and Ringwood. This has been timed to include the 'Last Supper in Pompeii' exhibition, where the original objects from Naples and Pompeii are on display. Further details are to follow.

If you are interested in reserving a place please email Karen on: karen.brown68@btinternet.com

Or give your name to Lilian Ladle – EDAS, Wareham and District Archaeology and Local History Society: lilianladle@hotmail.com,

Priest House Museum Update -Calling in the expert!

The Priest's House Museum is empty – almost.

Last week, behind the scenes, some of the museum's most significant archaeology artefacts were packed and stored under the guidance and watchful eye of Conservation Development Officer (CDO), Helena Jaeschke, who provides conservation and collection care advice to 540 museums across the southwest of England.

The main article in question was the Roman Force Pump from the Romano-British Villa at Tarrant Hinton which was excavated during the 1970s. This pump, which is dated 100 – 400 AD, is made of oak with lead liners and lead valve plates. It would have forced water from the bottom of a well up to ground level and then into a tank for storage. The pump is

one of only two force pumps found in Britain. It was a technological advance of its time, demonstrating the purpose of clean water for health reasons.

It was a busy day. Helena also advised the Collections Officer, Mark Neathey, on how to store the decorated wall plaster from the same villa. According to Professor Roger Ling, this is some of the most accomplished fresco painting in England. In addition, she moved a very fragile Bronze Age cremation urn from Simons Ground, a site of national importance and, possibly, the largest urnfield complex found in England to date.

All artefacts have been carefully packed and stored, in advance of the building works which commence during June. Mark and Helena needed to lift the artefact together. Due to the weight of the pump, the very large storage box was reinforced before it was lined with protective foam and acid free tissue paper.

Vanessa Joseph

Events at the Priest's House Museum - before building work starts

It's not often that the public get to wander round an empty Grade II* listed historic building so here is your opportunity. These will be a small charge unless you are a Member of the Priest's House Museum Trust or a Volunteer at the museum.

- June 3rd 2.00pm and 6.00pm: guided tours of the empty building
- June 12th 3.00pm and 6.30pm: guided tours of the empty building
- June 5th, "Echoes of the Past": a chance for the public to meet the characters who have lived in the building over the centuries. This exclusive performance will be performed by the Wimborne Community Theatre

EDAS members interested in these events should book their places through the Tourist Information Centre on 01202 886116. Places are limited.

Web Link Highlight April

This past month has seen a very varied collection of stories on the web. The now to be expected items about the latest finds Egyptian finds and two items revealing more about our ancient ancestors. But one item this month had personal resonance with me - and that was the reconstructed neolithic dog. I was struck by the similarity of the features of the head of this dog with those that Lindsey and I had the pleasure of for 18 years - Siberian Huskies. At one level this should not be a surprise. Siberian Huskies originated with the Chukchi peoples of Siberia and are thought to be one of the first domesticated breeds. They had three roles within the community - to pull loads from the hunting expeditions, to keep the family warm at night (they slept with the family) and to keep the family safe from wild animals. But the Chukchi people were very isolated until the early 20th century and probably stem from an ancient migration that found itself isolated on the Siberian Arctic and Pacific coasts. This isolation argues against a common ancestor for the Orkney dog and the modern Siberian Husky. It seems much more likely that the similarity comes from the fact that all domesticated dogs trace back to wolves (and can still interbreed with them).

At the CBA Wessex conference in 2018, Prof Alice Roberts posited that dogs were first domesticated around 35000 years ago, and cross bred with wolves infrequently over the succeeding millennia. At that stage Orkney was either already under ice or soon to be, and the mesolithic repopulation came only 18000 years later. Latest DNA research (see the item about the neolithic migration) indicates that the neolithic peoples replaced the indigenous mesolithic population, so did this include their dogs? It seems highly likely. Siberian Huskies and related breeds such as Alaskan Malamutes, Samoyeds, Finnish Spitz, Greenland Dogs etc are associated with the arctic regions so if the neolithic migration moved across the northern rim of the Mediterranean and up Atlantic seaboard it seems most likely that their dogs resulted from local domestication, rather than any connection with the Chukchi dogs.

Alan Dedden

April Weblinks

Asteroid Strike Creates Huge Fossil Hoard 66m Years Ago
https://www.theguardian.com/science/2019/apr/01/found-fossil-mother-lode-created-by-asteroid-that-wiped-out-dinosaurs

8th To 10th Century AD Ritual Site Discovered In Lake Titicaca
https://www.theguardian.com/science/2019/apr/01/archaeologists-discover-exceptional-site-at-lake-titicaca

The Next Phase Of The A303 Stonehenge Tunnel Consultation Begins
https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/apr/02/concerns-grow-as-plans-for-a303-road-tunnel-past-stonehenge-enters-new-phase

Ancient Teeth Point To Previously Unknown Hominin In China
https://www.nationalgeographic.com/science/2019/04/ancient-teeth-hint-at-mysterious-human-relative/

Brunel Letters Found In Bristol Port Company Archive
https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/apr/02/letters-reveal-isambard-kingdom-brunels-pollution-concerns

Finding The Vasa
https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/stories-47791179/finding-the-ship-lost-for-more-than-300-years

4 Legged Whale Fossil Reveals New Information On Evolution And Spread Of Whales
https://www.cbsnews.com/news/four-legged-whale-fossil-ancient-whale-walked-on-land-and-swam-in-the-sea/

Immaculate Gold Coin From 293AD Found In Kent
https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-6890247/Immaculate-coin-worth-100-000-discovered-amateur-metal-detectorist-Kent.html

Mummified Mice Found In "Beautiful" Egyptian Tomb
https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-47838077

Theory Of Terracotta Warrior Weapons Preservation Debunked
https://www.nationalgeographic.co.uk/history/2019/04/ancient-advanced-weapon-technology-theory-debunked-new-research

New Species Of Ancient Humans Found In Philippines Cave
https://www.theguardian.com/science/2019/apr/10/new-species-of-ancient-human-homo-luzonensis-discovered-in-philippines-cave

Cherokee Cave Inscriptions Decoded
https://www.newsweek.com/cherokee-inscriptions-discovered-alabama-cave-deciphered-scientists-tell-1392885

Neolithic Dog Reconstruction Sheds Light On Ancient Communities
https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/apr/13/neolithic-dog-reveals-tales-behind-orkney-monuments

Iron Age Skeletons Found During Pipe Laying In Oxfordshire
https://www.telegraph.co.uk/science/2019/04/14/iron-age-skeletons-may-have-victims-ritual-human-sacrifice/

DNA Study Reveals Origins Of Neolithic Peoples
https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-47938188

The First Gyroscope Lost With HMS Victory?
https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-47161370

Does 10000 Year Old Urine Hold Key To First Farmers?
https://www.theatlantic.com/science/archive/2019/04/10000-year-old-urine-holds-clues-domestication/587260/

Rabbit Bone Found At Fishbourne Dates To 1AD
https://www.standard.co.uk/news/uk/bones-of-britians-oldest-rabbit-discovered-in-roman-palace-a4120851.html

New Species Of Giant Carnivore Discovered
https://www.nationalgeographic.com/science/2019/04/new-species-ancient-carnivore-was-bigger-than-polar-bear-hyaenodonts/

14th Century Coin Hoard Found At Detectorist Gathering
https://inews.co.uk/news/uk/metal-detectorists-dug-up-a-150000-hoard-550-gold-and-silver-coins-1300s-buckinghamshire/

Ancient Egyptian Tomb Found Containing Dozens Of Mummies
https://www.newsweek.com/ancient-egypt-mummies-tomb-archaeology-cartonnage-1403726

Alan Dedden

EDAS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Your membership fee is due on 1 April no matter what time of year you joined. Those members who pay by standing order or who joined this year can ignore the remainder of this note.

Please pay your fee to me either at the April meeting or send your cheque (please do not send cash through the post) to me together with the attached renewal form. If you want to pay by standing order please let me know and I will send a form to you.

If you have online banking facilities and would like to pay us direct, our bank details are HSBC Ringwood. Sort Code 40-38-21. Account 61334085.

Peter Walker
Treasurer

EAST DORSET ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Surname/Forenames ……..

Address and Postcode ……..

…….. Telephone No. ……

E-Mail…….....

Individual £8.50, Family £12, Junior Associates 16 or 17 years old £5, Student 18 or over £5
Cheques payable to EDAS.

Please return form with cheque to: Peter Walker, 16 Whitfield Park, Ashley Heath, Ringwood, Hants, BH24 2DX or email: mail@dorset-archaeology.org.uk or Tel: 01425 471326 for a standing order form

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EDAS PROGRAMME - 2019

2019			
Wed 8th May 2019	**Lecture**	**Dave Stewart**	Once Upon a Hill: a study of Dorset hillforts

2019			
Wed 11th Sept 2019	**Lecture**	**Adrian Green, Salisbury Museum**	Archaeological treasures from Wiltshire
Wed 9th Oct 2019	**Lecture**	**Rob Curtis**	Turnpikes and Dorset coaching days
Wed 13th Nov 2019	**Lecture**	**Bob Kenyon**	The ancient DNA Revolution – waves of migration into Dorset
Wed 11th Dec 2019	**Lecture**	**Miles Russell, Bournemouth Uni**	Arthur and the kings of Britain
2020			
Wed 8th Jan 2020	**Lecture**	**Monique Goodliffe**	The aristocrat and the ironmaster (Dowlais and Wimborne)
Wed 12th Feb 2020	**Lecture**	**Josh Pollard, University of Southampton**	Settlement and monumentality of the Avebury landscape To be held at Bournemouth University
Wed 11th Mar 2020	**Lecture**	**AGM and members talk**	The Druce Neolithic Site
Wed 1st Apr 2020	**Lecture**	**Emma Ayling, PHM**	Taking community museums into the 21stcentury
Wed 13th May 2020	**Lecture**	**Tim Darvill, Bournemouth Uni**	Sticks and stones and broken bones

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 9th November	**CBA Conference**	**CBA**	**Various**	**CBA 2019 conference 'Sunrise over the Stones: recent research into Neolithic and Chalcolithic Wessex'. Held at Bournemouth University**