

BASINGSTOKE ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER 175

May 2006

CONTENTS

<i>Page 2</i>	AGM and Basing Update Coming Events: Excavations at the Grange, Old Basing Picnic in Lambs Meadow Marcham/Frilford Excavations
<i>Page 3</i>	Visit to Frocester and Cirencester Visit to Silchester Excavations Basing House Barbecue
<i>Page 4</i>	Fieldwork Report
<i>Page 5</i>	Basingstoke Talking History A Date for your Diary: Angels' Wings and Such Things and Fame and Fashion
<i>Page 6</i>	London Lodge – Crabtree Plantation
<i>Page 7</i>	The Brighton Hill Roundabout
<i>Page 8</i>	What's in a Field Name?
<i>Page 9</i>	Stop Press! Fifty Years of Roman Inscriptions in Britain
<i>Page 10</i>	Institute of Field Archaeologists Annual Conference
<i>Page 11</i>	Lecture Programme January – June 2007 Church Cottage
<i>Page 12</i>	CALENDAR

WOULD ANYONE LIKE TO HELP?

Ring Barbara Applin on 01256 465439

- Is there is anyone with computer skills who would like to help with the Newsletter, or with doing posters for meetings?
- Would anyone be willing to take some of our books/videos to an event and attempt to sell them?
- Is anyone interested in researching properties in Wote Street (as we did for GOING DOWN CHURCH STREET TO THE FELGATE BOOKSHOP)?
- Have we any singers in the Society?

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

With this Newsletter you will find the Calling Notice for the Annual General Meeting on Thursday 8th June at 7.30 pm at Church Cottage, as well as the Chairman's report and the Constitution and Excavation Rules showing small changes proposed by the Committee to clarify the existing constitution. Please remember to bring these papers to the AGM.

After the AGM David Allen will give an update on the Basing dig.

COMING EVENTS . . .

EXCAVATIONS AT THE GRANGE, OLD BASING 15th to 29th May

Dave Allen will be continuing his investigations at the Grange, Old Basing and Society members are welcome, and encouraged, to join in the excavations. Over the bank holiday weekend (27th-29th) there will be an archaeology weekend at Basing House and even if you are not up to digging you might find it interesting to pay the site a visit and take a guided tour.

Those interested who have not yet received a letter with an application form should contact Mark Peryer via email mperver@f2s.com or on 01256 780502.

PICNIC IN LAMBS MEADOW, Sunday 11th June

Richenda Power invites us to bring a picnic lunch to Lambs Meadow, Worting (the site of our Worting training digs) from 12 to 2. She is organising this event as part of the Environmental Stewardship scheme of which her meadow is part, and she suggests that this might be an eco-friendly day, with people arriving by foot, bus or bicycle if possible, or sharing cars! Also that the picnic might be of locally produced food. We shall be putting up a small display of work. Further details from Margaret Porter.: 01256 356012.

MARCHAM/FRILFORD EXCAVATIONS, Sunday 23rd July

For National Archaeology Day there is an open day with guided visits to the University of Oxford's excavations at Marcham/Frilford, 10 am to 4 pm (charge £5 a car). The main attraction is a massive circular feature, temple? ritual spring? Grid ref. SU4388 9622: off the A338 before the former Noah's Ark: Trendle's Field. Beware sharp turn into access road on the bend.

VISIT TO FROCESTER AND CIRENCESTER, Saturday 29th July

Details are enclosed of the day coach trip being organised by our Society with the Hampshire Field Club. **Please note that bookings are needed before 18th June and the booking slip and cheque should be returned to Robin Iles, NOT to our Society.**

VISIT TO SILCHESTER EXCAVATIONS, Thursday 10th August

Meet at the car park at 6 pm for a 6.30 pm visit (remember to allow time to walk to the site from the car park). We shall, as usual, take a collection so that we can make a donation to the Silchester Excavations Fund.

BASING HOUSE BARBECUE, Saturday 12th August

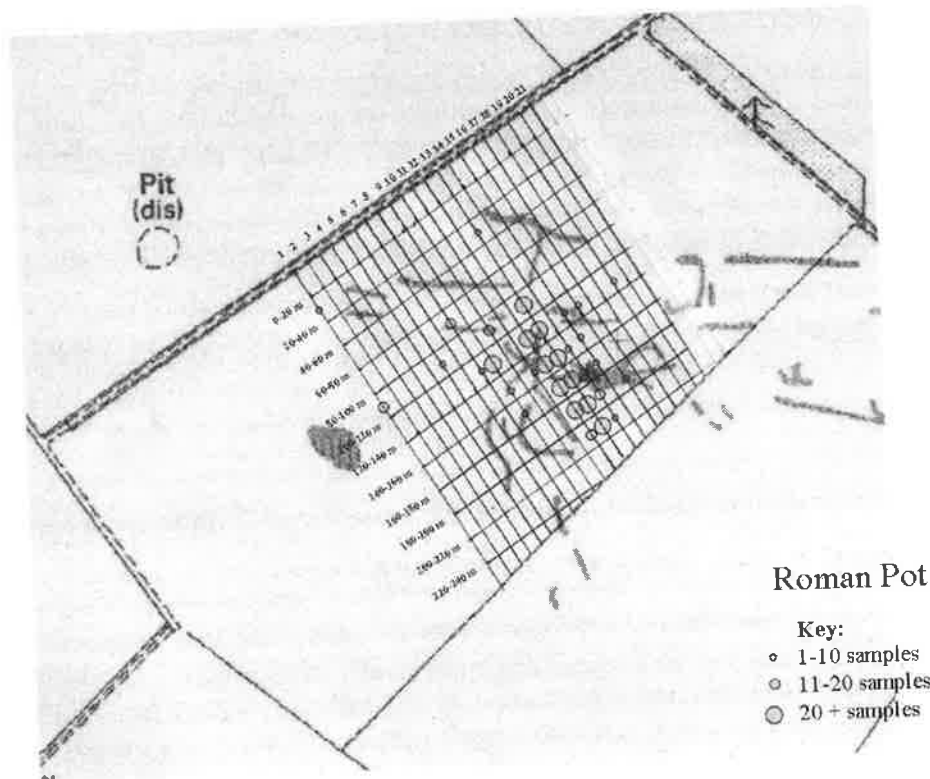
We are planning a Society barbecue at Basing House. Tickets will be available at the AGM or from Margaret Porter (01256 356012; 57 Belvedere Gardens, Chineham, Basingstoke RG24 8GB) Please buy your tickets beforehand so that we know how many to cater for; food will be provided but bring your own wine/beer. The cost is £4, part of which will be contributed to Basing House. Start time probably 7 pm, but please check when you buy your ticket. And please bring your own chairs.

Fieldwork Report

Mark Peryer (mperyer@f2s.com).



I am happy to report that there was a good turn-out for the Dummer field walk in February and there were a number of interesting finds. The most interesting thing was a good cluster of pottery that has been identified as coming from the Roman period. The pieces found ranged from pot rims (Alice Holt) and a fragment of the rim of a shallow dish, which were in good condition to scuffed fragments. We also found 3 coins – one from the Roman period in poor condition, one Mediaeval Jetton (or half of one) and a badly worn George I half penny. The current theory is that the crop marks in the field that we were walking were Roman paddocks and that the material found was accumulated from farmyard manure. The cluster of Roman pottery suggests that there may have been some kind of building there during the period; however, there was minimal brick or roof tile, which suggests it may have been low status.



We hope to arrange further field walks, but there will be gap until the autumn, since fields are under crop.



REPORT by Barbara Applin

We still have plenty of interviews and transcriptions to do and would welcome anyone who would like to help with these and with associated research. Some interviews will be preliminary work for a recording to be used in another Hampshire Museum Service exhibition about the Co-op – you may have seen some of Richard Garfield's recent articles in connection with this, in his Memories on Monday page in the Gazette. We also have follow-up health interviews, arising from the publication of TAKING THE PULSE OF BASINGSTOKE and, of course, a range of other subjects.

We are investigating the possibility of making some of our taped interviews available for loan through the Library Service. We have already identified some interviews that would be suitable and are looking out more. These will be of particular interest to people who use Talking Books, but they can also provide interesting material for schools, adult study groups and reminiscence sessions.

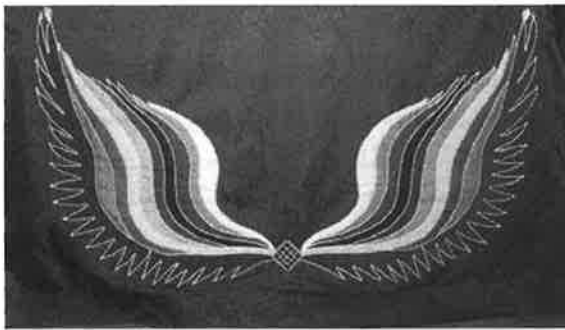
CDs of the interview with Deacon Pat Taylor, sent to the Roman Catholic Bishop of Portsmouth, will be placed in the Diocesan archives.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY!

7.30 pm Wednesday, 6th September 2006
Central Studio, Basingstoke

Barbara Applin

Angels' Wings and Such Things



*A video of Atherton Harrison's designs
for church embroideries
and the Basingstoke Cope*

Famz and Fashion

a film made by Atherton and Harvey
Harrison in 1965, illustrating changing
fashions from the 18th century to the
1920s



You will remember that our member, Atherton Harrison, mounted an exhibition in the Willis Museum of the chasubles, hassocks etc that she had designed for some village churches around Basingstoke, as well as the special Cope for the Bishop of Basingstoke. Some of you know that since then Atherton and I have been working with David Ogden of the Basingstoke Video Film Makers to make a video about these designs, showing the vestments, hassocks etc in the appropriate churches. We were very fortunate that the Bishop of Basingstoke agreed to take part and explain what the Cope means to him, and the Rector of the United Benefice of North Waltham, Ashe, Steventon and Deane explained how the designs related to the character of the individual churches. We then looked at each of the "roundels" on the Cope, illustrating different aspects of Basingstoke, and visited the places shown.

Now I am delighted to tell you that the video is finished, and is also on DVD. On Wednesday 6th September the Basingstoke Video Film Makers will give a public showing at the Central Studio, Basingstoke, followed by a film made by Atherton and her husband in 1965. The Right Rev. Trevor Wilmott, Bishop of Basingstoke, will be present. We hope to arrange a small display of some of Atherton's work.

Do keep this date in your diary. Tickets will be available from the Basingstoke Video Film Makers (price and address yet to be confirmed)

LONDON LODGE – Crabtree Plantation

Bob Applin



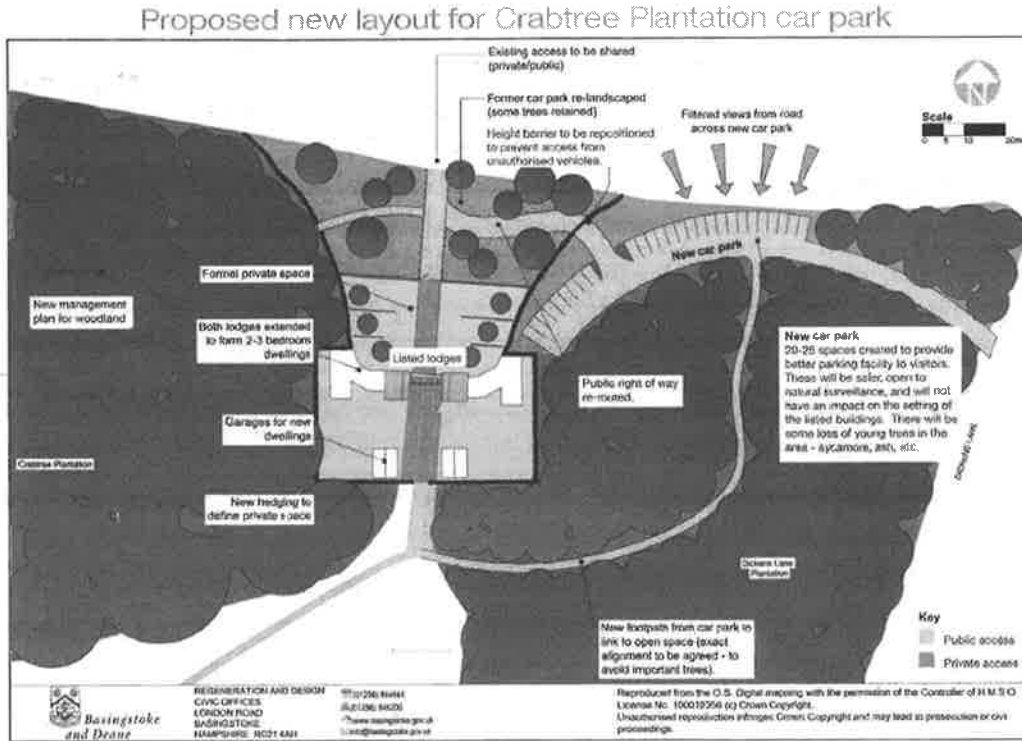
Those of you who use Crabtree Plantation open space or who drive along the A30 to Old Basing will be aware of the boarded up and derelict looking lodge buildings and archway (on the right just before Park Lane) on the left. These are in fact a Grade 1 listed structure that was once the main entrance to the Hackwood estate in the days of the Dukes of Bolton. The first and second dukes extensively remodelled and rebuilt much of the Hackwood estate, employing members of the famous Wyatt dynasty as their architects. In the early 19th century a new lodge and drive were designed by Lewis Wyatt. The buildings were designed in the severe Greek Revival style which was fashionable at the time. The fluted Doric columns, surmounted by a large coat of arms, formed an impressive entrance to the park. The line of the high road was also realigned to move further away from the Lodge. A great deal is known about this building work through the building accounts that survive in the Hampshire Records Office. The buildings on either side of the entrance, although designed for single occupancy, were in later years occupied by two families well into the 20th century (additions having been made in the late 19th century to provide increased living space; these additions were demolished in 1975).

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council as owner of these buildings is anxious that they should not deteriorate further, The Borough does not have the funds to refurbish the buildings for public use and, given their rather isolated position, the scope for meaningful public use is very limited. It has therefore, in consultation with the Hampshire Buildings Preservation Trust, produced a proposal that could be the way forward in preserving and enhancing their ambiance. BAHS was invited to an on-site presentation of the proposal to interested parties prior to its publication for public consultation. See www.basingstoke.gov.uk/planning

Very briefly the proposal is :-

The concept is that the view of the lodge and arch as seen from the A30 should be that of the lodge as originally designed and built.

The buildings would be reinstated and brought up to modern standards with sensitively designed additions to produce two dwellings with private cartilages. These dwellings would then be leased/rented to private individuals to recoup the outlay. OR, with suitable controls over what was done and final ownership, a private developer could be allowed to do the work. Refurbishment of the arch and replacement of the coat of arms would be part of either scheme. Any new build would be designed to match the original and would be positioned so that it was not seen from the A30. To provide the private curtilage, the current car park would be moved about 100 metres to the east and the footpath diverted around the buildings. Some clearance of scrub growth and the felling of few modern trees would be needed; these would be replaced by new planting.



Comment

This proposal appears to be an imaginative solution to a difficult problem that is worthy of support.

This note is based on briefing notes supplied by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council Planning Dept and a report for Hampshire Buildings Preservation Trust by Alison M Devison MA PhD Dip Arch. Illustrations by permission of the Borough of Basingstoke and Deane.

THE BRIGHTON HILL ROUNDABOUT Did anyone spot that the date on page 11, line 1 of the February Newsletter should read 43 AD (not 54 AD as given)?? Peter Stone adds a moral, *Noli numeris ratiocinator confidere*, which he translates as **Do not trust an accountant with numbers!**

What's in a Field Name?

Scott Childs

They say that every face tells a story, but on the farm the expression that comes to mind is that every field tells a story. People often ask 'How do you know which field you should be working in?' And the answer is simply they all have names; some are obvious whilst others are so obscure we have no idea why they are called by that name.

I'm sure we have all had experiences of starting to dig in a field looking for the remains of a church, barn or manor house, only for some local to come along and tell you that you won't find it there because the field is called Mill Field, where the old mill once stood; however, the field next door is called Church Field, Barn Field or Manor Field! Who would be a researcher on days like that!

But let's start with the estate's name, Manydown. Over the years I have heard several ideas as to where it comes from, but I like to stick with the one I heard first and the simplest version. I believe that Manydown is the estate of many downs, and if you look at the topography of the estate it starts high on downland at Kempshott, goes down to Pack Lane, up again to Manydown Park, down to Wootton St Lawrence, up to Woodgarston, down to Saunders Farm and back up to Ramsdell. And we also have areas of the estate like Pardown, Winterdown, Battledown, Rooksdown and The Down.

Now the field names come in various guises. Firstly we have the ones that describe the size of the field - for example, we have Four Acres and Forty Acres. This seems like a very logical system of naming fields but does cause problems if you have fields of the same size, or ones that are a different size from the name. For instance we now know that Forty Acres actually measures 41 acres!!

We then have the geographical way of naming the fields so we have two called East Field, a Middle Field and a South Field. But again this can be confusing as the two East Fields are actually on the west side of the estate, one in the North-West the other in the South-West. Middle Field is on the east side and South Field is in the middle! And no mention of a North Field anywhere! However, these fields were probably named by tenant farmers and these descriptions would have been accurate for their smallholding at the time they named them.

Similarly we have the fields that are named because of their location next to roads or other features. Fields like Manydown Park and Tangier Park are obvious as they are the two fields in front of where the two houses were situated. To confuse us, the two fields at the back of Tangier House are called The Park and Tangier Field! Also in this category we have Wootton Lane, Fox Lane, Pack Lane, Pardown, Rooksdown and Scrapps Hill. Again this sounds like a logical way to name fields but think about Pack Lane; how many fields are there along the side of Pack Lane between Fiveways and the Oakley crossroads? The answer is eight, but only one of them is called Pack Lane!

Next we have the fields that are named after people, in most cases the old tenant farmers. We have Kents, Moores, Hansfords and Goddards who at one time or another were tenant farmers on the estate or held private land that has been purchased over the years. The Kent family farmed at Upper Farm in Wootton for many years and Kents Field is situated opposite the entrance to the farm. However Teddy Evans farmed from Manor Farm in Wootton but Teddy's Field can actually be found nearer Tangier than outside Manor Farm! We have Huntsfield, just behind the playing field at Newfound,

named after George Hunt, farmer and 'Steam Thrashing Machine Proprietor' from Newfound in early 1880s. But we also have ones like Jagos, which is named after Mr Jago, the Butler/Chauffeur who used to work in Manydown House.

Another way of naming fields is to relate them to their previous uses; therefore we have fields called The Orchard, Rearing Field, Kennel Field, Rifle Butts, Waxhanger and Cricket Field. The Orchard is where the fruit trees were situated at the rear of Manydown House, likewise the kennels for the house were situated in Kennel Field. The Rearing Field is where all the young pheasants/ partridges and other game were bred for the estates copses and winter shoots. Rifle Butts is where Sir Sydney Bates established the Manydown Rifle Club in the 1890s, as the field formed a natural target shooting range.

And Waxhanger? Well I only have to mention the Reverend Charles Butler, the vicar of Wootton from 1600 to 1647 and the Father of English bee keeping for you to guess what used to happen in this field.



However again things can get confused, because it has been suggested that the cricket field was named after the insects rather than the sport!

Some of the field names we believe date back to Anglo Saxon times and funnily enough are all found in the same area; these include Innox (dairy farmstead), Boddins, Rough Mead (Communal Grass Field), Marvel Lands, Whiteborough, Roundgrove, Pilverlands and Severalls. And as for Great Villands and Hither Villands, they were always assumed to relate to the Roman period, especially in view of the Roman activity in these fields. However, there is another story as to how they got their name. The story goes that in the 11th century, Knud the Great from Villand in Scandinavia ruled this part of the country. In 1035 he was involved in several scraps on a hill (Scrapps Hill?), which led to a battle on the down (Battledown?). He was losing the battle and his troops were sent hither and thither (Hither Villands?) After that he bravely fought on alone (Lonely Meadow?) to his death and was taken to Winchester to be buried. In respect of the fight the Scandinavians put up, the locals then called the place where he fell Great Villands.

Fact or fiction we do not know, but it is certainly a field that has a story to tell! So next time you're on a dig, just ask the researchers if they have found out what the locals call the field because it may give some clues as to what went on there previously – then, again, it might just be a red herring!

STOP PRESS!

FIFTY YEARS OF ROMAN INSCRIPTIONS IN Britain

We just have time to give details of this lecture by Dr Roger Tomalin at 6 pm at the **House of Lords on Thursday 22nd June**. Apply for free tickets (preferably by e-mail) to John Pearce: john.pearce@kcl.ac.uk and they will be sent out at the end of May, with details of the venue. His postal address is: Dr John Pearce, Dept of Classics, Kings College London, The Strand, WC2R 2LS

Institute of Field Archaeologists Annual Conference

Debbie Charlton

The IFA held their annual conference at the University of Edinburgh, 11-14 April. Historic Scotland and RBPM General Ltd were the joint principal sponsors. Historic Scotland were also the generous hosts for wine receptions held within the City Chambers and Edinburgh Castle which provided the delegates with a rare and privileged private viewing of both locations.

The conference were held over three days and a wide range of conference sessions covering many archaeological areas were available for you to choose from to attend. Various institutions, companies and organisations had 'stalls' set-up to show the latest up-to-date equipment and methods in use for all things archaeological. Oxbow books were also present and had a wide selection of publications for sale or order.

The 2006 sessions covered a wide variety of subject headings: Visions of the Future, Identity and Material Culture, Diggers' Forum, The Archaeology of Buildings, Digital Archaeology, The Beaker People Project, British Rock-Art for the Future, Maritime Archaeology, Highlights of British Archaeology, Archaeology and Civil Engineering and Roman Archaeology.

Upon attending the Identity and Material Culture session the first paper presented, 'Resistance is flue-tile – Roman ceramic building material', (Phil Mills, University of Leicester), immediately had me smiling and thinking of the Society members who spend many hours moving boxes of building material around the storage shelves at Chilcomb House with the inevitable groans of 'Oh no not **more** CBM!!' The presentation was very interesting and mainly concentrated upon Roman roof tile. Recent work has been carried out studying the colour and shape of roof tiles with an interpretation of them being a visual Roman propaganda statement. Locations are being recorded and mapped to provide a viewshed for the use of red roof tiles for the UK and the wider Roman world. It is hoped that the resulting 'roofscape' shall provide a new interpretation for rural and urban settlements.

Claire Heywood (British Museum) gave a very informative presentation on the disintegration of iron in situ which can provide an iron cast/mould of any organic materials present within its vicinity. This is often overlooked at the time of excavation and the use of mechanical digging equipment can destroy the valuable evidence without our even knowing it was there. There is a need for more time and care and less modern haste to be taken so that we do not miss irretrievable information.

The Digital Archaeology session looked at the massive growth of information technology and its relation to archaeology. With many databases joining the World Wide Web with 'words' such as IADB, JISC, ICT and CIE, all of which lead to accessible information environments for archaeological research, the impression is given that we shall soon be able to simply 'click and browse' many local and national archaeological databases. Unfortunately access to these amazing on-line Record databases is not always free and many of the sites require a subscription fee to be paid. Some of these subscription fees are quite expensive and still make creditable information inaccessible to the individual researcher. The Wessex Archaeology 'blog' page is well worth a 'click and browse' visit.

Highlights of British Archaeology provided an insight into some of the most significant discoveries from the past twelve months. A report on the Percival, Vickers & Co Ltd British and Foreign Flint Glass Works, Manchester (Ian Miller) provided a pause for thought in that it brought home to me that although we concentrate on the ancient past it must not be forgotten that the modern past needs to be given as much, if not more, thought and consideration. It showed a need to be ever watchful and alert to the destruction and passing of technologies and culture of the last 100 to 200 years, otherwise we are in danger of letting it slip by without applying the 4 R's of archaeology (Recognition, Reporting, Recording, Recovery) that we so confidently say we are fully complying with today.

Although I have only been able to impart to you a small insight into the vast amount of Presentations given at the conference, I can truthfully say that the IFA conference was once again well organised, informative, stimulating and enjoyable and I am already looking forward to the 2007 conference.

ADVANCE NOTICE

BAHS LECTURE PROGRAMME - January to June 2007

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 11 January | Richard III
Prof. Michael Hicks, University of Winchester |
| 8 February | Human Evolution
Prof. Chris Stringer, Department of Palaeontology, The Natural History Museum |
| 8 March | Working with Skeletons
Simon Mays, English Heritage |
| 12 April | Kiplin Hall; a Jacobean House and its Families
Dawn Webster |
| 10 May | The County's Archaeological collection; Behind the Scenes
Kay Ainsworth, Hampshire Museums & Archives Service |
| 14 June | AGM |

CHURCH COTTAGE



Church Cottage will be open for Heritage Day on **Saturday 9th September**, with a leaflet and a display available about its history and Bill Fergie will give a talk. Our video of the performance of **A DAY IN TUDOR BASINGSTOKE**, which took place in Church Cottage, will be showing during the day. The Management Committee is looking for grants to fund some dendrochronology dates on timbers in the Chapter Room and the School Room and to announce the results at the Open Day. Our own Committee has agreed to fund one dendro date, and if other grants come forward it might be possible eventually to do one in the Barn, where we meet.

CALENDAR

15-29 May	<i>Dig at The Grange, Old Basing</i> (page 2)	
27/29 May	<i>Archaeology Weekend, Basing House</i> (page 2)	
Sat 21 May	Guided tour of Basing House. 3 pm at Kiosk	FBH
Thurs 8 June	AGM and BASING DIG UPDATE (page 2)	BAHS
Sat 10 June	Outing to Salisbury Cathedral and Close	HFC
Sun 11 June	Historic Buildings AGM and conference	HFC
	Picnic in Lambs Meadow (page 2)	
Wed 21 June	FILMING <i>PRIDE & PREJUDICE</i> AT BASILDON PARK	TADS
Thurs 22 June	FIFTY YEARS OF ROMAN INSCRIPTIONS IN BRITAIN Lecture at the House of Lords (page 11)	
Sat 24 June	Visit to Dogmersfield Park (Landscape Section)	HFC
	Evening event at the Barn: Museum Loft Singers & Morris Dancing: a celebration of Hampshire Folk Music	FBH
Thurs 30 June	Summer Barbecue at Basing House	FWM
Sat 1 July	Visit to Michelmersh Church & Manor (Historic Buildings)	HFC
Wed 19 July	TIDGROVE WARREN EXCAVATIONS	TADS
Sun 23 July	Open Day at Marcham/Frilford (page 2)	
Sat 29 July	<i>Visit to Frocester and Cirencester</i> (page 3.)	BAHS & HFC
Thurs 10 Aug	<i>Visit to Silchester, 6pm for 6.30</i> (page 3)	BAHS
Sat 12 Aug	<i>Barbecue at Basing House</i> (page 3)	BAHS
Wed 6 Sept	ANGELS' WINGS AND SUCH THINGS and FAME AND FASHION Central Studio, 7.30 pm (page 5)	
7-10 Sept	Heritage Open days: Guided tours of Basing House, 3 pm at Kiosk	
Sat 9 Sept	Heritage Open Day, Church Cottage	
Thurs 14 Sept	IMAGES FROM THE AIR, RECENT WORK ON CRANBORNE CHASE Martin Green	BAHS
Wed 20 Sept	FELONS AND FINGERPRINTS	TADS
Thurs 21 Sep	THE HISTORY OF BOARD GAMES	FWM
Tues 10 Oct	RESTORING SHIPS' FIGUREHEADS	FBH
Thurs 12 Oct	THE TICHBORNE CLAIMANT Gill Arnott	BAHS
Thurs 19 Oct	TAKING THE PULSE OF BASINGSTOKE – A YEAR LATER Barbara Applin	FWM
Thurs 9 Nov	KEEPING UP WITH THE ATREBATES: POPULATIONS, IDENTITIES & SOCIAL CHANGE IN THE LATE IRON AGE Richard Massey	BAHS
Thurs 14 Dec	WINE AND CHEESE	BAHS

BAHS	Our Society; lectures 7.30 pm at Church Cottage
FBH	Friends of Basing House, 7.30 pm, Basing House new tea room
FWM	Friends of the Willis Museum, 7.30 pm at the museum
HFC	Hampshire Field Club; Science Lecture Theatre, Peter Symonds College, Winchester. We can send one representative; details from our Secretary
TADS	Tadley & District History Society, 8 pm St Paul's Church Hall, The Green, Tadley

Secretary: Margaret Porter 01256 356012

Website <http://www.bahsoc.org.uk>

Items for Newsletter to Barbara Applin; e-mail 106441.3542@compuserve.com