

NEWSLETTER

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..... RUCTSTALLS HILL

Our thanks to all who took part in the excavation, and in particular our warmest thanks to those who braved the cold towards the end and filled in the last pits and ditch sections! We succeeded in our first aim, of making a basic plan of the site, with drawn sections of various features, and there is now a great deal of work to be done on the finds and on the records that were made. We are asking experts to analyse the bones, slag, soil samples etc and we ourselves have to wash, mark and sort the pottery.

We are hoping to get back to the site this year for a brief excavation of the remaining pits. Details later.

..... POT WASHING

Pot washing (followed by marking and sorting) is continuing on Thursday evenings from 7.30 pm in the annexe behind the Willis Museum. This is the best way of getting to know the many varieties of Iron Age/Roman pot, and we hope that a good number will come and help.

..... NEXT LECTURE

On Thursday, 25th January at Chute House, Jill Greenaway of the Reading Museum, on M4 Rescue Excavations.

..... 1973 EXCURSIONS

If you have any suggestions for this year's excursions, please tell any Committee member as soon as possible so that we can arrange to go to places you would like to see.

..... 1 POPHAM EXCAVATION

We have not yet received details of the excavation of the DMV (Deserted Medieval Village) planned for this summer as part of the rescue work on the M3 extension, but we are sure that many members would like to take part and we will let you know as soon as we have dates.

..... JOINT MEETING WITH INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP

The Lecture Programme card did not give the speaker for this lecture on 29th March (at Chute House). It is Mr Don Cross, MA, FRGS, who will speak on ROADSIGNS AND ROAD FURNITURE. Mr Cross is a lecturer at the Salisbury College of Technology, a member of the Wiltshire Archaeology and Natural History Society and secretary of the Industrial Archaeology Society.