



CAMBRIDGE ARCHAEOLOGY FIELD GROUP

Newsletter Number 158

May 2010

President	Dr John Alexander	Vice-President	Dr Paul Spoerry
Chairman	Barrie Fuller		
Secretary	Susan May, 94 High Street, Great Shelford, Cambridge, CB22 5EH, tel 01223 843121; email: cafg.may@ntlworld.com		
Treasurer	Graham Vincent		

LECTURES

Lectures are normally held in the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology or the McDonald Institute seminar room at 7.30 pm. The season concludes with:

- 5 May Angus Wainwright (National Trust regional archaeologist) on *Sutton Hoo – burial ground of the kings of East Anglia*. In the McDonald Institute
- 2 June Dr Peter Forster on *Tracing prehistoric ancestry with DNA*

Parking is available on site, from Tennis Court Road.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions are now due at an increased level this year from 1st April 2010 at:
£8 for individual membership
£11 family membership

If you need to post subscriptions, please send them to the treasurer, address above.

You should be aware that you are only covered by the Group's insurance if you are a paid-up member.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM was held on Wednesday, 14th April 2010. The following Officers and Committee Members were elected for 2008/09:

Chairman	Barrie Fuller
Secretary	Susan May, 94 High Street, Great Shelford, Cambridge, CB22 5EH, tel 01223 843121
Treasurer	Graham Vincent
Field Officer	Mike Coles tel 01223 871403
Committee	Colin Coates Terry Dymott Stephen Reed Emma Smith John Waterhouse

The chairman reported that the Group had achieved what it had set out to do in its 30th anniversary year, upping its profile and membership, especially among younger people, partly as a result of the Memorial Prize. There was also interest in the Group within the McDonald Institute and the Department of Archaeology. Good fieldwork had continued, for example at Wimpole, and he was pleased that the Group was moving in the right direction. This was due to lots of members, one example being in the development of the web site – Bill Hughes and Colin Coates were thanked in particular; and the chairman expressed his thanks for the support of all and to the field officer for his professional work for the Group.

The field officer's, secretary's and treasurer's reports had been circulated and were received. The accounts have now been examined and certified correct. The reports will be filed with the minutes, but if you did not receive a copy and would like one, please let the secretary know.

The field officer further reported that more work is continuing on the Childerley Hall estate, where another spot, even though small, has been added to the Roman map. Excavations at Wimpole will take place from the 24th July to 1st August inclusive, near the Home Farm buildings. This will be different from recent excavations: a cable had gone through a building and the Group has been asked to discover the nature of the building. Rheesearch has done geophysical survey and it is hoped that the results can be put on the Group's website.

Of work done in the past year, comment was made on the consolidation of the area at Oily Hall, Lode and at Reach, where much had been learnt about the recognition of flint. Also, 15 members of YAC had been taken out to Great Eversden, where the Group helped them learn about fieldwalking and they contributed to the Group's work.

The AGM, hearing that while ordinary expenditure on items such as insurance and affiliation fees could be expected to continue to rise, interest income had plummeted, resolved that the level of subscriptions should rise by £1.

The meeting concluded with the presentation to one of the two successful applicants for the Val Whittaker Memorial Prize. Nine applications had been received and it had been decided to offer awards to : Laura Boxell from Hills Road Sixth Form College for her work "How far can archaeology help us to decide what the function of Wandlebury Hill Fort was?" and Neville Robinson from the Cambridge University Institute of Continuing Education Diploma in Archaeology course for his on "The Roman Saxon Shore: an approach to the logistics behind the campaign". Neville was unable to attend this meeting but the chairman welcomed Laura and presented her with the cheque.

Following the AGM, Dr Alexander talked about "heritage and rescue archaeology: an unauthorised view". A summary will be given in the next newsletter.

BAR HILL PROCESSING EVENINGS

Processing continues at the Oxford Archaeology East HQ at 15 Trafalgar Way, Bar Hill on Wednesdays when there is no lecture. We meet from about 7.15 pm.

For those who have not yet found us: approach Bar Hill; at the roundabout where Tesco is on the left, go straight on; take the first right (Trafalgar Way) and Unit 15 is on the corner of the second left turn, with parking in front. Be careful of the large lorries in this area. A plan can be provided.

FIELDWORK

Fieldwalking We are still working on the Childerley Estate, on fields accessed from Boxworth. We have to wait for crops on further fields to reach a walkable stage, but should have one or two more Sundays there.

Excavations at Wimpole will take place from Saturday 24th July to Sunday 1st August inclusive, near the Home Farm buildings (see AGM report), and it is hoped to carry out some survey work beforehand.

CAMBRIDGE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY

Antiquarian Society lectures are held in the Law Faculty Building, West Road, Cambridge at 6.00 p.m. on Mondays. Members of the Group are eligible to attend and the programme continues with:

- 10 May Prof Simon Keynes on *John Mitchell Kemble (1807-57): Apostle, Revolutionary and Anglo-Saxonist*
7 June Richard Mortimer and Alex Pickstone on *Further excavations at the War Ditches, Cherry Hinton, Cambridge*

The CAS also has an excursion programme this summer. Bookings (with cheques) should be sent to: Mr A Kirby, 3 Hills View, Great Shelford, CB22 5AY, not later than one week before the excursion. The programme is:

- 15 May Chatham Historic Dockyard. 09.30 Trumpington P&R, return by 19.30. £29.00 (£27.50 concessions)
26 June Morning exploration of Cherry Hinton Hall park and Lime Kiln Hill. Meet 11.00 at Cherry Hinton Hall car park. £3.00
14 July Spalding, Lincolnshire, including the Spalding Gentlemen's Society. 09.30 Trumpington P&R, return by 19.00. £15.00
15 September The medieval riverside at Ely. Meet at 14.00 at Ely station entrance. £7.00 with tea at The Maltings, £3.00 without
6 October Moggerhanger Park, Bedfordshire, building designed by Sir John Soane, grounds laid out by Humphrey Repton. 13.00 Trumpington P&R, return by 18.00. £19.00

LOCAL EVENTS

- 3 May Reach Fayre – meet archaeologists; “Hands on History” sessions; guided walk of Devil's Dyke. 11am-4pm
15 May Finds identification day at St Neots Museum. 11am-1pm
19 May Guided walk round Roman barrows at Bartlow Hills (near Linton). Meet Bartlow church entrance 7pm
26 May Guided walk along Car Dyke Roman canal. Meet at car park on Waterbeach recreation ground 7pm
5 June Finds identification day at Cromwell Museum, Huntingdon. 10.30am-12.30pm
9 June Guided walk along the Devil's Dyke. Meet Burwell Road car park between Burwell and Swaffham Prior 7pm
19 June Swavesey Festival – meet archaeologists.
23 June Guided walk of Wandlebury Iron Age Hillfort. Meet in the car park 7pm
3 July Archaeological open day at Wandlebury Iron Age Hillfort with activities and walks. 12pm – 5pm. £2
7 July Guided walk round Stonea Camp Iron Age hillfort. Meet at entrance past Stitches Farm, Wimblington 7pm
14 July Guided walk around Rampton medieval castle and deserted medieval village. Meet at monument entrance 7pm
21 July Guided walk round the archaeology of Shire Hall, Castle Hill, Cambridge. Meet in front of castle mound 7pm

CONFERENCES/COURSES

15-17 October CBA weekend in Cornwall

FIELDWORK OPPORTUNITIES

Details of digs can be found at: www.ilovethepast.com (through *Current Archaeology*) and www.britarch.ac.uk/briefing (CBA), also: archaeology.about.com

LIBRARY ADDITIONS

British Archaeology May/June 2010
CBA Newsletter, April 2010

Susan May, Secretary