

THE FIELDWORKER

NEWSLETTER OF THE LEICESTERSHIRE MUSEUMS
ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK GROUP



No: 200
Date: March 2006

1. **THE NEXT MEETING** will be on Thursday 16th March at 7.30pm at Jewry Wall Museum, St Nicholas Circle, Leicester. **Marilyn Palmer**, Professor of Industrial Archaeology at the University of Leicester, will be "**The Field Remains of Leicestershire's Industrial Past**". Marilyn is probably the foremost industrial archaeologist who has done a tremendous amount of work in Leicestershire. Should be excellent!
2. **DIARY DATES (All at Jewry Wall Museum at 7.30pm)**

May 18 th , 2006	Prof Colin Haselgrove: Recent advances in The Iron Age
June 15 th , 2006	AGM and Miss Linford Award.
September 21 st 2006	Peter Liddle: Medbourne and the Big Roman Dig
3. **SUBSCRIPTIONS**
We are well on the way to being fully paid up. If you are one of those who haven't got around to filling in the form yet there will be a final reminder with this newsletter.
4. **EXCAVATION NEWS**

University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) are hard at work in **Leicester** still working mostly on the huge area of The Shires Extension. At **Vine Street** another hypocaust has been found and the view that this is. At **Freeschool Lane/Shires West** work is concentrating on the High Street frontage where several plots are being excavated. The demolition of the **St Peters Road carpark** has allowed evaluation but so far seems to be disturbed by medieval evaluation. At **Great Central Street** a medieval? stone lined cellar has been found in evaluation after a factory demolition. At **De Montfort University** work after the demolition of the James Went Building produced small bits of surviving archaeology including a Roman ditch, a Roman surface and a medieval pit. Outside the old town Roman features have been found near to the Fosse (**Melton Road**).

ULAS have also found some time to operate outside the City. At **Barwell** medieval features were found. At **Whetstone** post medieval ditches and undated post holes were excavated, while at **Enderby** the Fosse Way was located and sectioned and double ditches and smaller curvilinear ditches were found, suggesting an Iron Age settlement. On the **Oakham Bypass Archaeological Project Services** have excavated a stretch of triple ditch with a double pit alignment at right angles. They have also found a crouched inhumation burial in a round pit. The Leicester Mercury billed the burial a Bronze Age Bob the Builder but it is not yet clear what date the burial is or its relationship with the ditches. At **Barrow on Soar** evaluation by the **Oxford Archaeological Unit** has followed up a previous geophysical survey, which showed curving and straight ditches. An extensive area of Iron age material and medieval, 17th-18th century and 19th century lime kilns have been found. At **Rothley Grange** a number of burials have been recorded.

5. DONINGTON EVENTS

There is as ever a programme of events at Donington le Heath Manor House:

Sunday, 19 th March:	11am – 4pm:	<u>The Romans Are Coming!</u> <i>A day highlighting the Roman period in Leicestershire. We would be keen to have people bringing their Roman finds.</i>
Saturday And Sunday, March 25 th -26 th	11am – 4pm:	<u>Donington relaunch celebration</u> <i>Re-enactors and more! A weekend celebrating the improvements at Donington.</i>
Saturday and Sunday, April 8 th -9 th	11am - 4pm	<u>Wildlife and Wellies</u> – Donington Environment Day

6. DONINGTON le HEATH TALK

On Wednesday April 5th at 7.30 Peter Liddle will be speaking on 'Medbourne and the Big Roman Dig'. This is part of the lecture series jointly sponsored by the Museum Service and the Friends of Donington.

7. ICE AGE NETWORK

.Information on the National Ice Age Network is included with this Fieldworker.

8. THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE EAST MIDLANDS

The frameworks document, edited by Nick Cooper, is about to come back from the printer. Copies available from ULAS.

9. MISS LINFORD AWARD

We remain keen to encourage entries for the Miss Linford Award entry. It only needs to be around 4 sides of text with any supporting photos, plans etc. We would be happy to advise. All archaeological / historical projects completed in the last 5 years are eligible. If the Award is going to develop we need you to consider entering.

10. FIELDWORK

We have heard about fieldwalking by Alan Clark at **Lubenham**, producing Iron Age material. At **Ravenstone** Roman pottery tile and possible kiln debris has been found in a garden. This is being investigated by Witan.