

THE FIELDWORKER

NEWSLETTER OF THE LEICESTERSHIRE MUSEUMS ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK GROUP

No: 201
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- 1. THE NEXT MEETING** will be on Thursday 18th May at 7.30pm at Jewry Wall Museum,
St Nicholas Circle, Leicester. **Colin Haselgrove**, the new Professor of Archaeology at the University of Leicester, will be speaking on "**Stanwick, North Yorkshire: The rise and fall of an Iron Age royal site**". Colin Haselgrove is one of the country's leading Iron Age scholars and should provide a stimulating evening. He is also keen to meet local archaeologists.
- 2. DIARY DATES (All at Jewry Wall Museum at 7.30pm)**
June 15th, 2006 AGM and Miss Linford Award.
September 21st 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 still heavily engaged in the **Shires Extension** work. Three sites are running here. On **St Peters Lane** the burial ground of the Ebenezer Methodist Chapel is being moved. At Vine **Street** the Roman levels are being excavated and an additional area is being stripped. At **Freeschool Lane** a? Middle Saxon rectangular building is being excavated. A medieval bread oven has also been excavated. At **Leicester Road, Melton Mowbray** Iron Age and Anglo-Saxon material has been found. At Manor **Farm, Drayton** Roman and Anglo-Saxon material and features have been found, while at **Barnsdale, Great Easton** Iron Age and Roman material and some undated features have been found. At **Brooksby** Bronze Age pottery and flint have been found on the line of a new quarry haul road.
At **Barrow on Soar** evaluation by the **Oxford Archaeological Unit** have excavated more lime kilns, mostly of post medieval date. At **Greetham Cambridge University Archaeological Unit** have produced an Iron Age site.
- 5. DONINGTON AND JEWRY WALL EVENTS**
There is as ever a programme of events at Donington le Heath Manor House:
May 21st: Maytime Mayhem: 11am – 4pm.
June 18th: Victorian Garden Party: 11am – 4pm.
Forthcoming events at Jewry Wall
May 27th Mosaic Madness! 12-4pm. £1.50 for activities.
June 17th Music from days gone by 12-4pm. £1.50 for activities.
- 6. DONINGTON le HEATH TALK**
On Wednesday June 7th at 7.30 **Patrick Clay**, co-director of ULAS, will be speaking on "**Leicestershire Prehistory Revisited**". Patrick is Leicestershire's most distinguished prehistorian and will be speaking about advances in our understanding over the last few years. Highly recommended.

7. MISS LINFORD AWARD

It is time to get your entries in for the Miss Linford Award for the best archaeological / Historical project in Leicestershire and/or Rutland. It needs to be with Peter Liddle, Leics County Council, Room 500, County Hall, Glenfield, Leicester, LE3 8TE by Monday June 5th.

8. FIELDWORK

The Roman site at **lbstock** (mistakenly said to be Ravenstone in the last Fieldworker) continues to be investigated by Witan Archaeology. There now seems little doubt that this is a hitherto unknown high status site, probably a villa. Work continues.

9. HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

John Robinson has started as HLC officer, working with Richard Clark, on this English Heritage funded scheme. It attempts to map the historic aspects of the Leicestershire Leicester and Rutland landscape. It encompasses 'natural' and man-made features. The project will last 30 months. John will come to a future meeting to describe the scheme more fully.

10. TRIP

The Fieldworker trip this year will be on July 29th and go south to Knaptoft, Welford, Harrington and Rothwell. Leaflet attached.

11. GRACE DIEU PRIORY

Grace Dieu Priory will open officially to the public on July 1st and 2nd. More details in the next Fieldworker.

12. MEDIEVAL CONFERENCE

The group will be holding a conference on medieval Leicestershire. Having spoken to potential contributors this will now be timed for spring 2008 to allow people time to produce substantial contributions that will be published. Offers of papers to Peter Liddle on (0116) 265 8326.

13. BOSWORTH FIELD PROJECT

The Group has been asked to participate in the fieldwork for the Battle of Bosworth Archaeological Project. We are looking for volunteers to work on the fieldwalking aspects of the project over the next two seasons. We are hoping to put together 2 or more ad hoc groups to work on the project. Volunteers to lead teams or take part should contact Peter Liddle. It is envisaged that there may be a weekday group and a weekend group building on the existing group organised by Jane Southgate and Wendy Love.

14. SHAKESPEARE AT DONINGTON

Once again, there will be two outdoor performances at Donington le Heath Manor House. On June 25th Chapterhouse Theatre Company will perform Twelfth Night and on August 3rd.

15. NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGY WEEK EVENT AT JEWRY WALL

Wendy Scott, FLO will be organising 'Hands on Archaeology' Sat 15th July which will promote public involvement in Archaeology. She would like groups to display recent work and/or handling material please contact her on 0116 2658325 if you would like to attend.

16. DOWN TO EARTH

Included with this newsletter is Leics Archaeological News no 17, edited by Kathy Harman. Thanks to Kathy for her hard work.