

THE FIELDWORKER

NEWSLETTER OF THE LEICESTERSHIRE MUSEUMS ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK GROUP

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1. **THE NEXT MEETING** will be on Thursday 21st December at 7.30pm Wall Museum, St Nicholas Circle, Leicester. It is the annual **CHRISTMAS SOCIAL** which will include the Christmas Quiz (written, as usual, by John Lucas). You are invited to bring food to share, but there will be snacks and liquid refreshments (soft and alcoholic) and there will be a charge of £1 per head to cover costs.
2. **DIARY DATES FOR 2007 (All at Jewry Wall Museum at 7.30pm)**

January 18 th	Wendy Scott: Portable Antiquities Scheme in Leics
March 15 th	Graham Keevil: Grace Dieu Priory
May 17 th	Mick Jones: The archaeology of Lincoln
June 21 st	AGM and Miss Linford Award

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 please consider this a gentle reminder as even we are not hard hearted enough to send final reminders out at Christmas.

4. **EXCAVATION NEWS**

The frenetic pace of work in the field has now slowed down to be replaced by a great deal of inside work. ULAS are, however, working on another phase of work on **Bath Lane, Leicester**, where the west town wall and other features have already been revealed. At **Leicester Road, Melton Mowbray** a site is producing a probable Anglo-Saxon sunken featured building and metal working debris cutting a deep prehistoric, probably Bronze Age, pit.

5. **DONINGTON EVENTS**

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

Sunday, 21st January: 11am – 4pm: Indoor Games and Crafts
An event exploring indoor crafts and games from the past

Mon & Tues, 12th & 13th February: 11am – 4pm: February Fun
Half term craft activities for kids.. House trail running all week.

Sunday, 18th March: 11am – 4pm: The Romans Are Coming!
A day highlighting the Roman period in Leicestershire. We would be keen to have people bringing their Roman finds.

Donington is open on a 7 day a week basis until December 19th to allow the Christmas decorations to be viewed. We are then closed until January 6th. Through January there will be weekend only opening. We re-open for 7 day a week opening on February 3rd.

6. ARCHAEOLOGY AND REGENERATION IN LEICESTER

The event at Jewry Wall Museum was a great success with over 400 visitors on the day and a host of interesting finds for them to see. It is hoped that the display will be travelling and we hope to arrange a second showing at Donington le Heath, probably on February 25th.

7. MEDIEVAL LEICESTERSHIRE CONFERENCE

The Group are planning a conference on the above subject to be held over the weekend of April 5th – 6th 2008. Proposals for papers are invited. Half hour lectures are envisaged.

8. NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGY WEEK

Next year's National Archaeology Week is from July 14th to 22nd. We plan to make this the best ever. An event is pencilled in for Jewry Wall Museum for the first weekend and at Donington le Heath for the second. A Roman event at Donington is planned for the Wednesday afternoon. We would like to fill the programme with events and guided walks across the County. We are planning for Burrough Hill and Beacon Hill but would like local groups to offer their own contributions. Any offers to Peter Liddle on number below.

9. Across the Board – Around the World in 18 Games

If you missed this exhibition from the British Museum (it was at the New Walk Gallery in Leicester but not much advertised in the county) it is now at Luton Museum until 21st January. Provides an opportunity to see the Lewis Chessmen close up plus the museum's new acquisition the 'Wenlok Jug' – a very rare and significant royal medieval serving jug purchased for £750,000. Well worth a detour if you are passing.

10. SEASON'S GREETINGS

The Committee of the Fieldwork Group and the staff at County Environment and Heritage Services and City Museums wish all the Fieldwork Group a great Christmas and New Year.

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