

# THE FIELDWORKER

NEWSLETTER OF THE LEICESTERSHIRE MUSEUMS  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK GROUP



No: 213  
Date: January 2008

- THE NEXT MEETING** will be on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30pm at Jewry Wall Museum, St Nicholas Circle, Leicester. The speaker will be our very own **Dr Richard Pollard** who will be speaking on '**Roman pottery production in Leicestershire and Rutland**'. Richard has been working on Leicestershire pottery for very many years and is the acknowledged expert. He plans to bring some finds to look at and suggests that having a look at the material on display at Jewry Wall before the meeting (doors open at 7pm). It is clear that there are many more sites to find. While writing this Neil Glenister has brought in a small group of kiln bars from a new site in Peckleton! Highly recommended lecture.
- 2007/8 SUBSCRIPTIONS**  
Subscriptions were due in June. There are still over 100 subscriptions not yet brought up to date. A letter went out with the November Fieldworker. We would appreciate a quick return.
- DIARY DATES FOR 2008 (Unless stated at Jewry Wall Museum at 7.30pm)**

March 20 <sup>th</sup>	Jeremy Taylor: Two Roman Small Towns - Thistleton and Medbourne compared.
April 5-6 <sup>th</sup>	Fieldworker/LCC Conference: The Archaeology of Medieval Leicestershire. At County Hall
May 15 <sup>th</sup>	Richard Jones: Defining spaces – manure, open fields and medieval rural society
June 19 <sup>th</sup>	Miss Linford Award and AGM
- EXCAVATION NEWS**  
**University of Leicester Archaeological Services(ULAS)** has continued its excavation **Great Central Street/Highcross Street, Leicester**. So far, medieval plots have been defined along the Highcross Street frontage as well as a complex series of stone cellars. Work is also continuing at **Lockington**. New finds include small Roman buildings. More news on both in the next issue.
- NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGY WEEK**  
Next year's National Archaeology Week is from July 12<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>. Thanks for everyone who has responded so far. We hope to improve on last year's good showing. All ideas and offers welcome.
- NEWS FROM JEWRY WALL**  
The big news is that Jewry Wall is going to be open to the public seven days a week from February 1<sup>st</sup>. This is really good news.  
On **February 9<sup>th</sup> from 11 -3pm** the Friends of Jewry Wall will be holding a **Love Through The Ages** event.

## 7. **NEWS FROM DONINGTON le HEATH MANOR HOUSE**

Donington is currently open at weekends only until February 2<sup>nd</sup> when seven day a week opening resumes. The January event is on **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> January** from 11am to 4pm. It is **Indoor Crafts and Games**. This features small scale indoor crafts such as spinning, bowl turning, tatting, lace making, corn dolly making and a vast array of board and table games from around the world and from the past. A great chance to learn new skills and games. If you have a craft skill to demonstrate please contact Peter on the numbers below. The February event is on **February 10<sup>th</sup>** when the Society of the Open Rope will be taking over the house to show how a household in the English Civil War would have operated.

## 8. **YOUNG ARCHAEOLOGISTS CLUB**

As many people will know there is a Leicestershire Branch of the Young Archaeologists Club (YAC) that was started as a partnership between the County Museums and the Fieldworkers. It is currently led by our Secretary, Liz Johnson. The group caters for 8 to 16 year olds interested in the past. Local meetings are held monthly, often at Jewry Wall Museum. For more details of membership or of opportunities to help contact Liz at [embe1@leicester.ac.uk](mailto:embe1@leicester.ac.uk)

## 9. **NEWS FROM THE SOUTH EAST LEICESTERSHIRE TREASURE**

Things are really getting under way in the exciting project to bring the finds from this nationally important site back to the county and make them accessible to the public. As people will remember the site of an Iron Age religious site was found by members of the group and produced over 5000 coins (mostly late Iron Age with some Roman), evidence of the sacrifice of pigs, a very high status Roman helmet and many more finds.

Latest developments include the go ahead for an £80,000 programme of conservation on the helmet at the British Museum and the appointment of designers to produce permanent and travelling displays. Two extra members of staff will be appointed very soon to work on the project and an initial conference on the finds will be held later in the year. All of this is thanks to funding from Leics County Council backing up substantial grants from the Heritage Lottery Fund, The Art Fund, the MLA/V&A Purchase Fund, and the DCMS/Wolfson foundation, as well as local sources including the Friends of Leicester and Leics Museums, the Fieldworkers and many individual members.

### **Name the newsletter**

We now need your help to come up with a name for the project newsletter. We are having a competition with 3 categories – under 12 years, 12 to 17 years and 18 years and over. There will be a prize for the best suggestion in each category and the best of the three will become the name of the project newsletter. Your suggestion with name, address and contact details needs to be at Harborough Museum, Council Offices, Adam and Eve Street, Market Harborough, LE16 7AG by Friday January 25<sup>th</sup>. It will be judged by the project Community Group.

## 10. **TIME TEAM IN LEICESTERSHIRE**

The programme on Time Team's visit to Leicestershire, featuring many familiar faces will be shown on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> February at tea time on Channel 4. Both Iron Age and Anglo-Saxon finds.

**CONTACT LMAFG via PETER LIDDLE, ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES TEAM, LEICS COUNTY COUNCIL, ROOM 500, COUNTY HALL, GLENFIELD, LEICESTER, LE3 8TE. Tel: (0116) 305 8326; e-mail: [pliddle@leics.gov.uk](mailto:pliddle@leics.gov.uk)**