

THE FIELDWORKER

NEWSLETTER OF THE LEICESTERSHIRE MUSEUMS ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK GROUP

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- 1. THE NEXT MEETING** will be at 7.30pm on September 17th at Jewry Wall Museum, St Nicholas Circle, Leicester. The speaker will be **Gavin Speed** of **ULAS** who will be speaking about **Anglo-Saxon Leicester**. Gavin is doing a PhD on the subject and will be pulling together old finds and the recent finds from the Highcross Development that is suddenly throwing considerable light on a previously murky subject.
- 2. TREASURE OPENING – September 19th 2009**
The long awaited display of the Hallaton Treasure will open on Saturday 19th September. It will be launched with a Hoards and History Day with re-enactors (Roman army, medieval, Sealed Knot, Victorian, First World War), falconry and talks. The day will be from 11 to 4pm in the Museum, the Harbrough Theatre and the Square around the church and Old Grammar School. Free.
- 3. DIARY DATES FOR 2009 - 10 (mostly at Jewry Wall Museum at 7.30pm)**
November 19th Mick Aston: 2 Landscape Projects in Somerset (County Hall, 7.30pm)
January 21st Alan Clark: Excavations at Papillon Hall
March 18th Peter Liddle: Digging The Dead
- 4. THE FESTIVAL OF LEICESTERSHIRE & RUTLAND ARCHAEOLOGY**
The Festival went really well with over 50 events and, in all, over 4,000 visitors. Thanks to everyone who worked so hard to produce the events (and to all those who visited them!). We want to make this bigger and better next year. Why not organise a display, a lecture or a guided walk in your area? Next year's Festival is July 17th to August 1st. Contact Peter for more information..
- 5. EXCAVATION NEWS**
Northamptonshire Archaeology have been evaluating a site of rectangular enclosures with possible curved gullies found in geophysical survey at **Dishley Grange**, north of Loughborough. The evaluation has broadly confirmed the plan and, so far, the dating suggests a Roman date.
- 6. ANNUAL TRAINING**
The annual training day at Jewry Wall Museum is on Saturday 26th September from 10am to 4pm. This now appears to be fully booked. A week of infield training will take place at Loddington from October 5th -9th. Over 30 people have provisionally booked a place. This means we will have to offer half day slots and we will start contacting people to confirm times.
- 7. 2009/10 SUBSCRIPTIONS**
Subscriptions are now due for 2009-10. Thanks to those who have already paid. Subscriptions have been held again so membership remains a real bargain. Please use the renewal form attached.

8. CERTIFICATE COURSE

The University's School of Archaeology and Ancient History offers a part-time certificate course over two years on the main campus, which many members of the Leicestershire Fieldworkers have undertaken during the last 30 years.

The course runs from 6pm-9.30pm on Thursday evenings during term time, amounting to thirty weeks each year, with occasional fieldtrips at weekends. The course covers the Prehistoric, Roman, Anglo-Saxon and medieval Archaeology of Britain alongside modules on Archaeological Methods, Public Archaeology, and the Analysis of Archaeological Materials, Environmental Remains, and Pottery. Assessment of the course is by essays during term time with a single seen exam at the end of the first year.

The Certificate is one of the most comprehensive in the country and good value for money at £575 per year. If you are interested please contact the Course Director, Nick Cooper at the School of Archaeology, University of Leicester (0116) 2522847/8 (email njc9@le.ac.uk) or Heather Roach at Vaughan College on (0116) 2517368 (email hcr5@le.ac.uk). There is a course induction morning on Saturday 26th September 10am to 1pm and the course begins on Thursday 1st October at 6pm in the Archaeology and Ancient History Building.

9. HERITAGE GATEWAY

Leicestershire have successfully applied to English Heritage for a grant to add our local historic environment records to the Heritage Gateway, which was set up to provide web-based access to England's local and national Historic Environment Records.

Leicestershire's data made available through the Heritage Gateway will be fully searchable alongside other partner authorities (currently c. 40 HERs) as well as other nationally held historic environment data, for example Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, etc. The project will undertake a staged release of Leicestershire and Rutland's heritage data over the next 3 years, the first tranche of information being delivered to the Heritage Gateway by December 2009.

10. FIELDWORK GROUP NEWS

At the AGM the committee elected was Paul Bowman (Chairman), Tony Holmes (Treasurer), Kathy Elkins (alias Harman) (Editor), Ernie Miller, Alan Clark, Edwin McWilliam and John Lacey. We are trying to develop new local groups. A very encouraging meeting at **Osgathorpe** will, hopefully, lead to a group there with Graham Coombs acting as mentor. There is also the prospect of setting up a new group to work around **Melton Mowbray**. A meeting is being planned.

We are still hoping to set up interest groups on a range of subjects. Anyone interested in organising a group please let us know.

We hope to build up The Fieldworker. Copy date for contributions for the next issue is November 1st. Please send reports of work etc.

11. MICK ASTON TALK

We are expecting a big turn out to Mick's talk on November 19th and have switched the talk to the County Hall Council Chamber. However, booking will still be needed. Please ring, write or e-mail Peter to book places.

12. YOUNG ARCHAEOLOGISTS CLUB

We are trying to build up the local YAC group, which is for 8 to 16 year olds. If you could spare some Saturdays to help or have family members of the right age to join please contact Peter.

CONTACT LMAFG via PETER LIDDLE, LEICS COUNTY COUNCIL, ROOM 500, COUNTY HALL, GLENFIELD, LEICESTER, LE3 8TE. Tel: (0116) 305 8326, e-mail: peter.liddle@leics.gov.uk. PLEASE NOTE CHANGED e-MAIL ADDRESS.