



East Dorset Antiquarian Society

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NEWSLETTER– MAY 2011

APRIL LECTURE

At our last meeting we had a very stimulating talk “**Deconstructing the Durotriges**” by Dr. Martin Papworth of The National Trust.

Challenging the convenient assertion made by Ptolemy that the Dorset area was settled by a homogenous group known as the Durotriges, Martin has undertaken a large-scale study of the 'Durotrigan zone', looking at the types and patterns of settlement, and the distribution of ceramics and coins. He explained that settlement forms showed considerable diversity, which can also be seen in differing burial customs and belief systems. He concludes that the area was inhabited by co-existing, but distinct communities. However, coin evidence shows that particularly towards the end of the pre-Roman period the communities were linked together, possibly in a form of trading block

Martin has recently published a book, which I thoroughly recommend to everybody interested in Dorset, “**The Search for the Durotriges: Dorset and the West Country in the Late Iron Age**”, published by The History Press for £16.99.

THE WORTH MATRAVERS EXCAVATION - Update

At the beginning of February a team of EDAS volunteers returned to the Football Field just north of the village, to complete the excavation of the area that will be destroyed when an access road is built for a new development. The excavation is scheduled to complete by middle of May.



It is very cold on Windy Ridge in February!

The work undertaken during 2010 has been submitted for the Dorset Archaeology Awards and includes a short film of the excavation made by Lloyd Morgan of www.lloydmorganproductions.co.uk and is available online through the EDAS web-site. Lilian Ladle, the site director, will be giving a talk to EDAS about this very interesting site on 13th September.

EDAS WALK – Sun 17 April

Around 12 EDAS members and guests joined Henry Cole for a walk “In the Footsteps of Heywood Sumner”, starting out from Fritham in the New Forest. Henry is a volunteer New Forest ranger and a self-confessed admirer of Heywood Sumner and led us on a fascinating and enjoyable walk on a sunny day in the Forest.

The variety of archaeological sites is impressive and over the course of the walk we saw the site of a WWII steam powered saw mill, a medieval Charcoal burners pit, a Medieval Pig Pound (the sow was trained to return there every night with her piglets for safety!), a coppice enclosure (those who pollarded instead of coppicing were prosecuted), a WWII German bomb crater and the site of the Sloden Green Roman potteries (dug by Sumner). We also visited the site of two different medieval hunting lodges, the smaller known as The Churchyard at Sloden (the earthworks were originally thought to be a churchyard) and the larger known as Studley Castle, near Bramshaw Telegraph. Studley Castle (13th to 15th century) shows as a rectangular low bank with external ditch and the lodge is thought to have been timber but with a slate or tile roof.



In the afternoon we visited the site of a gunpowder factory dating from around 1860. It was developed by two businessmen and known as the Schultz works and produced gunpowder for sporting guns. Eyworth pond near the site was created to feed the works in 1875. The works produced 20000lbs of gunpowder per week at its peak but went out of use shortly after the Great War.

Many of the sites Henry showed us were either illustrated or excavated by Heywood Sumner. [From Wikipedia: George Heywood Maunoir Sumner (usually **Heywood Sumner**) 1853–1940, was originally an English painter, illustrator and craftsman, closely involved with the Arts and Crafts movement and the late-Victorian London art world. In his mid-forties he relocated to Cuckoo Hill, near Fordingbridge in Hampshire, England, and spent the rest of his life actively investigating and recording the archaeology, geology and folklore of the New Forest and Cranborne Chase regions.]

Many thanks to Henry for a most fascinating and enjoyable walk in the lovely New Forest.

An internal change to the way that the Newsletter is produced.

Andrew Morgan has very kindly agreed to help with the authoring of the monthly Newsletter. If you have an item that you think should go into the Newsletter, then from now on please send it directly to him (e-mail andrewmorgz@aol.com or tel **01202 731162**).

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DATE	EDAS EVENT
2011	
Wed 11 May	EDAS Lecture: “Discovering Dorset (part 1)” with Rev. Stewart Timbrell.
Sun 22 May	Guided Tour of Rockbourne Villa: David Allen will provide us with a tour of Rockbourne Villa on Sunday 22 May starting at 11.00. You will also be able to visit the museum. Please be at the Villa by 10.45 so that we can make a prompt start at 11.00. Any queries please contact Peter Walker on 01425 471326 or email him at peter@peterwalker.info
Sat 18-25 June	EDAS 2011 Field Trip to Pembrokeshire: Arranged by Andrew Morgan on 01202 731162 or email at andrewmorgz@aol.com
August	Visit: Damerham Project excavations. <i>Details to follow.</i>
September	Guided Tour: Salisbury Cathedral. <i>Details to follow</i>
Wed 13 Sept	EDAS Lecture: “Buildings and Burials, Ritual and Rubbish - recent excavations at Worth Matravers” with Lillian Ladle MBE.
Wed 12 Oct	EDAS Lecture: “A Celtic feast: the tale of the Chiseldon cauldrons” with Dr Andrew Fitzpatrick of Wessex Archaeology
Wed 9 Nov	EDAS Lecture: "The Roman Invasion of Dorset and the Road System" with Peter Laurie of the Dorset Roman Conquest Group.
Wed 14 Dec	EDAS Lecture: “Early Mechanical Music” with Gordon Bartlett
2012	
Wed 11 Jan	EDAS Lecture: “Kingston Lacy House” with James Graseby of the National Trust
Wed 8 Feb	EDAS Lecture: “Archaeological Illustration - Talk and demonstration” with Nick Griffiths FSA
Wed 14 Mar	EDAS Annual General Meeting , followed by EDAS Members Evening.
Wed 18 Apr	EDAS Lecture: “The Damerham Project” with Dr Helen Wickstead MIFA of Kingston University and Martyn Barber, English Heritage
Wed 9 May	EDAS Lecture: “The Big Dig and Banjo's at Winterborne Kingston. Investigating the daily lives of the Durotriges” with Dr Miles Russell of Bournemouth University.

The monthly lectures start at 7.30pm. Walks and field visits usually meet at 10.30 am at the published OS Grid Reference. Ring the leader if the weather is doubtful or if more details are required.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2011

Would any members who have not renewed yet this year please send Helen Brickell a renewal slip (below), or preferably request that a standing order to be set up.

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**EAST DORSET ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM FOR MARCH 2011/12**

Please highlight any change of details

Surname/Forenames

Address and Postcode

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Telephone No. E-Mail.....

Individual £8.50, Family £12, Student £5

Method of Payment: 1. Standing Order _____ 2. Cheque. _____ **(Please Tick)**

Please return to:

Helen Brickell, Membership Secretary, 48, Lytchett Drive, Poole, Dorset, BH18 9LB
or **E-mail** hmbrickell@googlemail.com or **Tel** 01202 602753

Name in block letters.....

Signed