



Introduction

Hello everyone and welcome to the April 2026 CDAS Newsletter. I've heard how well received Miles Russell's talk was last month, I'm sorry to have missed it. Along with appearing on stage, we've also been away. I've visited Scotland and the Lake District many times but have never visited the North East of England (the western route north is always given preference on SatNav/ Google Maps). We put that right visiting Bamburgh Castle, Cragside and Lindisfarne and to my wife's great excitement we saw the many puffins of the Farne Islands. Whilst she was still reeling with the excitement of the Puffins, I managed to persuade her we had time to visit some stones. Here's just a few pics of Duddo Five Stones.



You may be aware that some stone circles have myths that you cannot count them – not the Duddo Five stones, I counted them and there were definitely more than 5! When we visited, there was a family making the walk across the fields and up the hill to visit. Apart from being annoyed that I had to work hard to keep them out of my photos I was really pleased to see a family visiting the stones and maybe sowing the seeds of interest in those young children for later life.

Talks and Lectures Schedule

The New Park, Chichester 2025

2026

22nd April - Simon Coleman and Dr Rebecca Welshman - 'Heathfield Down: An Alternative Location for the Battlefield of Hastings, 1066'.

May 27th – Members evening – general call to members for anyone who wants to give a 10min talk on research they're working on together with reports back from Fieldwork Committee on CDAS activity in the last year.

June/July/August – Summer recess, no lectures.

September 23rd – Francis Wenban-Smith - Giant hand-axes and other recent Palaeolithic discoveries.

October 28th - Martyn Allen, Oxford Archaeology – Post-excavation of the discoveries at the Westhampnett Rolls Royce excavations.

November 25th – Helena Griffiths and Andy Bliss - Prehistoric hunters of the High Weald.

December 9th - AGM at the hall in Bosham

All talks are at New Park Cinema, Chichester, from 7:00 pm, talks start at **7.30 pm** . The bar will normally be open after the lecture for drinks (hot, soft or alcoholic). The bar is a cash free bar, so, payment by card only.



******Raffle Prizes request****** Anne Joy messaged to me to ask for more donations for raffle prizes. She has enough for this weeks talk but would appreciate donations for the May Members evening. Usual request for good quality unwanted gifts, chocs, toiletries or bottles, please bring them in for the April talk. Anne and Sam will not be able to be at the May meeting so we're grateful for Sally stepping in to run the raffle then.

Activities

The General Committee have a number of activities in train, including a pub quiz, more details on that when the plans become firm. I have agreed with Mark Seaman, our Chairman to run a walk to Cissbury. We visited with the Chichester YAC Young Archaeologists, I'm sure many of you know Cissbury well, so I may need to brush up my knowledge. I will recce the recently re-opened Worthing Museum, I wonder if an optional follow-on visit to the Museum would be a good idea. We have pencilled in Monday 24th August for this visit/walk.

If you have any suggestions for activities or want to get involved arranging an activity, please email activities@cdas.info For full details see the CDAS website [here](#)

Fieldwork

My thanks to Mike Kallaway for his summary of Fieldwork activities

Completed Activities

Following the recent Magnetometry survey of the balance of the main church field at Idsworth a report has been issued covering both the results of the latest and previous surveys.

Recent Activities

The Community Archaeology Radiocarbon Dating (CARD) Fund approved our application to date samples taken from the Medmerry fish trap that was first surveyed in April 2025. We have now been informed that the results should be available Mid-June

We have just completed the geophysical survey of Halnaker Hill as part of our hilltop enclosure programme. Despite the rather blustery conditions we managed to complete the work well within the plan. More than 25 CDAS members took part which is a very good level of support.

Future Activities

Since the FWC Meeting we have had approval from Historic England of our plan to make a topographical survey and fingertip search of the Flint Mines on Kingley Vale in April.

We are working on plans for Coastal Monitoring and Condition Assessment activities in the Spring.

CDAS 100 Club

Don't forget the CDAS 100 Club is a great way for you to support us.



Join the 100 Club by giving £2 a month (or £24 annually) to CDAS. This buys you one membership number which is included in the monthly draw. All participants must be over 16 and a member of CDAS. We'll be holding the 'catch up' draws on our return to New Park.

To join please email 100club@cdas.info

The draw will take place each month at a CDAS meeting. Winnings will be paid to you by bank transfer.

The prize money will be 35% of the membership fee taken that month. The remaining 65% goes to CDAS to help fund equipment, resources and opportunities for members.

Membership Update /Member Mojo

It's that time of year again – Renewal ! You will have received an email detailing the process of renewal. It is a two-step process; i) you must log onto Membermojo and indicate that you wish to renew your membership (there is a link in the email from Richard New) then ii) you need to pay your subscription, again all the details of ways to pay are in the email. Simple, or so it should be, I hope, for Richard's sake, the process is trouble free but if you have any concerns or queries, please reply to Richard's email.

Competition Time

The Competition to design a new CDAS Logo is now closed and Committee are considering the entries. They will announce the winner at our May Members evening.

Have you Seen?

If you have found a particularly interesting or useful website that you think Members might not have seen, then please feel free to forward to me and I'll include here. A lot of links are already included on our main website;

<https://www.cdas.info/Links.html>

You may have seen or heard of this from other sources, led by the National Trust, Changing Chalk is a landscape-scale partnership connecting nature, people and heritage on and around the South Downs.

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/sussex/the-changing-chalk-partnership>

Trever Creighton has given a CDAS talk in recent years, here he is on Youtube, talking about the experimental archaeology of reconstructing a Bronze Age round house;

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mEbDYTsUME0>

The Culver Project in Lewes have details of the Bridge Farm Exhibition, talks and digging opportunities here;

<https://www.culverproject.co.uk/>



Oxford Cotswold Archaeology have this interesting short video of find processing;

https://youtu.be/CygAE2ZDIEM?si=H3pl3oUs_2eDVI2z

and also from the A66 project, this on the significance of quartz in the prehistory

<https://oxfordcotswoldarchaeology.org.uk/news/neolithic-rock-crystal/>

Thanks for taking the time to read this Newsletter, please feel free to get in touch with suggestions and / or content of your own.

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