

Introduction

Hello everyone and welcome to the September 2026 CDAS Newsletter. Just a short Newsletter this month announcing an important scheduling change to our talks programme – we have had a late cancellation for next week's lecture but a new lecture is in place, see details below, Francis Wenban-Smith's talk on Palaeolithic Hand Axes will now take place in the new year. My thanks to Mark Roberts for handling this, and ensuring we still have a talk on Wednesday 23 September.

I was pleased to join CDAS members at Seeley Copse for our main dig this year and it was particularly pleasing to see so many of our Student Members taking the opportunity to build their dig experience and contribute to the overall efforts of members. Thanks to Mark, Steve and James for arranging this year's activities, it was great to be digging prehistory and seeing the ditches reveal an interesting story of continued use through to contact with Rome.

Here are just a few of my photos;





Talks and Lectures Schedule

The New Park, Chichester 2025

2026

September 23rd – *Change to advertised talk*** Graham Scott - An early Medieval journey from Exeter to Bosham to Kingley Vale,**

During this first lecture of the 2026/27 season, the author Graham Scott will take us on an early Medieval journey from Exeter to Bosham to Kingley Vale, through Stoughton and to Chichester. Drawing on the remarkable Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, the talk will feature Viking Raids and the English response in and around the Chichester area. *Members are especially encouraged to promote this talk to younger members of CDAS, children and older grandchildren. Graham's talk promises a dramatic opening to the season's lectures.* We have extended an invite to Chichester YAC, please come along and catch up with CDAS friends after the summer recess.

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 September****** Sam and Anne Joy are away for the September talk so unable to run the raffle. Sam has asked if anyone could step in to run the raffle in their absence please get in touch. (They didn't want anyone to feel obligated if they have helped out in the past so haven't asked directly).



Activities

Mon 21 September : Cissbury Walk, led by Dickie Spurgin. This will be a short walk (approx 2.5 miles) around Cissbury Ring exploring its main features. **Note;** whilst a relatively short walk, there is a reasonably steep climb to reach the hill fort and it can be quite uneven under foot.

Meet: Cissbury Car Park 11:00 a.m., please email dickie.spurgin@hotmail.co.uk if you would like to join this walk. I'm please to say we've had a few more joiners since my recent email, free to CDAS members, £5 for non-members.

Thursday 8 October CDAS Pub Quiz

Details to follow, including how to book. We are trying out a new booking system so bear with us. The quiz will be open to individuals and teams. If you can muster a team of 4 that would be great but if you want to attend on your own, you'd be welcome to join a team on the night

Thanks to John Pilkington for getting this arranged, I know it's had its challenges! And thanks in advance to Ros's husband Ian for volunteering to host the quiz, offering a neutral voice of authority.

This is a new venture, please support if you can.

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

Thanks to Mike Kallaway for the update from Fieldwork Committee;

Goodwood Estate - Seeley Copse Excavation

Excavation went well. 7 trenches were opened with a nice selection of finds.

Coastal Monitoring – Medmerry, East Head & Chichester Harbour

Medmerry East Fish trap is no longer visible. The organisation that undertook the carbon dating (for free) have asked to use the CDAS project as an example of the types of projects they support. This is due to appear in Current Archaeology.

Condition Assessment Thorney Island

Joint vegetation clearance of large gun emplacement with Chichester Harbour Conservancy has been agreed for later this year. A work schedule for remaining sites in Autumn/winter 2026/27 to be prepared.

Stansted House Secret Garden –Geophys Survey

Postponed due to extreme dry conditions. May take place later in year.

Warblington Excavation - Close Down

The formal report is scheduled to be published in the Hampshire Field Studies this autumn

Fieldwork Training

Could run expert lead classes as we did in past. Eames Farm provides a good venue. Possible topics include flint and pottery.



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

No update this month

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>

No links this month as the September Newsletter is hot on the heels of August's

DiGBats

Answers to last month's DiGBats; Flint scatter, Highdown, Backfill, Cross-Dyke, Arbor Low, Grey Ware, Clear up your loose, Ground Penetrating Radar, Long Barrow

Just a couple this month

Mick	R
Keith	O
Brian	L
Bill	L
Charlie	

TENOS

That second one's bit tenuous, I apologise in advance!



If you think of any DigBats, please forward them to me, if you can't do the formatting, describe it and I'll have a go at creating it. I'm aware of the additional rod I have made for my own back! Answers in Next Months Newsletter, but they're easy aren't they?

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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