

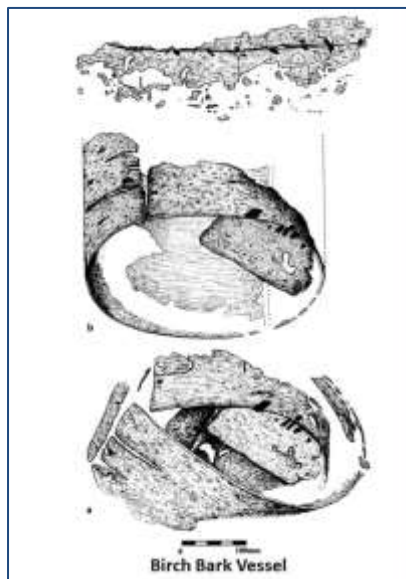
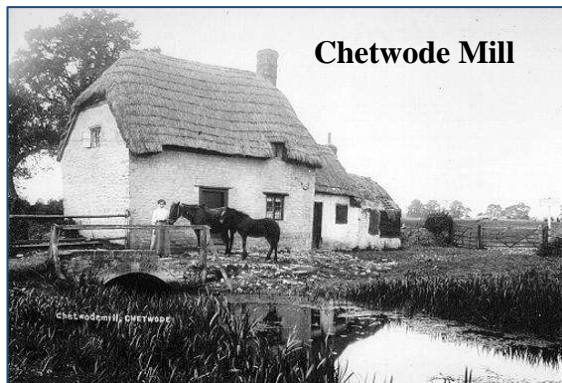
# BUCKINGHAMSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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## NEWSLETTER

Spring 2023

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### THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

To be held on Saturday 13 May 2023 in the meeting room at the county's Discover Bucks Museum in Church Street, Aylesbury, starting at 2.00pm.

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## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The Society focuses on all aspects of the historic county, working to protect and record our heritage and historic environment. Historic buildings and ancient churches, documentary research and the landscapes of the past, local history – as well as archaeology and fieldwork – all are within our remit. We are just as concerned about the present as the past: our members are active in assessing the impact that HS2 will have on the county's historic buildings and landscapes. We were formed in 1848, over 170 years ago, and our collection is curated by the County Council in the County Museum, Aylesbury, an historic building in shared ownership between the Society and the Council, and at the Buckinghamshire Archives.

Registered Charity number **310525**  
County Museum  
Church Street  
Aylesbury, HP20 2QP  
TEL. **+44 (0) 01296 798015**  
email: [bucksas@buckscountymuseum.org](mailto:bucksas@buckscountymuseum.org)



### **PRESIDENT** **Julian Hunt**

#### **VICE PRESIDENTS**

Colin Dawes	Hugh Hanley
Michael Farley	Maurice Hart
Diana Gulland	Dennis Mynard

#### **HOLDING TRUSTEES**

Richard Gem	Michael Farley
Richard Marks	Julian Hunt

#### **ELECTED MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

Alan Burnett	Pauline Hey	David Hillier
Andy Ford	Andrew Kemp	Lucy Lawrence
Marian Miller	John Sheldon	Ros Tyrrell

#### **CO-OPTED MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

Eliza Alqassar	<i>Bucks County Archaeological Service</i>
Nicholas Crank	<i>Milton Keynes Archaeological Service</i>
Sue Shave	<i>Buckinghamshire County Museum Trust</i>

#### **OFFICERS OF COUNCIL**

Peter Marsden	<i>Chair of Council</i>
Doug Stuckey	<i>Hon. Secretary</i>
Harry Ball	<i>Hon. Treasurer</i>
Sarah Gray	<i>Hon. Librarian and Lectures Organiser</i>
Bob Zeepvat	<i>Hon. Editor of Records</i>
Nigel Rothwell	<i>Hon. Membership Secretary</i>
David Noy	<i>Hon. Archivist</i>

Sandy Kidd      John Dodd      Gary Marshall

BAS Website

<http://www.bucksas.org.uk>

Active Archaeology Group

[bucksasaag@gmail.com](mailto:bucksasaag@gmail.com)

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The society's journal – **Records of Buckinghamshire** – is published in May every year with reports of discoveries from recent archaeological excavations, history buildings, local and industrial history and all aspects of times past in our county. Every member of the Society receives a free copy. Editor: Bob Zeepvat

**The BAS Newsletter**, The County Museum, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP20 2QP.

e-mail the editor at [Douglstuckey@aol.com](mailto:Douglstuckey@aol.com)

Printing is by **Waddesdon Church of England School**, School Lane, Waddesdon, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP18 0LQ



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society Prize 2023

**Do you know an individual or organisation that has made a substantial contribution to conserving, enjoying and understanding Buckinghamshire's heritage?**

**The BAS, Joan Elding Prize is open to any individuals, local societies, public bodies and Commercial organisations who have done or supported archaeological or historical work in the county.**

**Nominations can be made by anyone and are open until Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2023. To nominate and for further information please complete the online form on the BAS Website here: <https://bas1.org.uk/bas-annual-heritage-prize>**

**We are looking for contributions to one or more of these objectives:**

- Advancing knowledge of the county's archaeology and history
- Protecting or conserving some important aspect of the county's heritage
- Promoting public awareness of, involvement in and enjoyment of the county's archaeology and History
- Demonstrating enthusiasm and/or innovation in achieving the above

**The prize will be awarded at the Buckinghamshire Local History Network Conference on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2023**



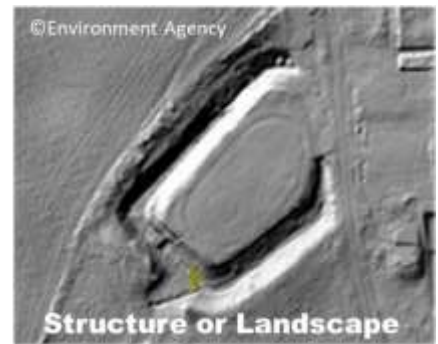


# BLHN ♦ 2023

**Celebrating and Valuing Bucks' Unsung Heritage  
The Bucks Local Heritage List**

**BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL HISTORY NETWORK Conference and Fair**  
♦ **Saturday 7 October 2023** ♦ The Oculus, Aylesbury ♦ 10am-5pm

**Put this date in your calendar now ...**



The **Buckinghamshire Local Heritage List** provides an opportunity to identify, celebrate and protect heritage assets of local value. The List currently has 2956 nominated entries of which 771 have been adopted by Buckinghamshire Council, with more in the process of adoption.

The conference will explore the intent and width of the List and your opportunity to contribute to it. Nominations to the List will close in early 2024.

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**Heritage Open Day, Aylesbury Market Square**  
**9<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

As part of this day, BAS will run a 'Muddled Museum' and publication stall in Aylesbury Market Place 10:00am to 4:00pm. More helpers and volunteers would be welcome.: <mailto:bucksasaag@gmail.com>

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## THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

To be held on Saturday 13 May 2023 in the meeting room at the county's Discover Bucks Museum in Church Street, Aylesbury, starting at 2.00pm.

The meeting will be held both in-person at the museum and simultaneously online for members who, for whatever reason, are unable to attend in person.

## AGENDA

- Item 1. Apologies for Absence**
- Item 2. Minutes of AGM of 20 May 2022**
- Item 3. Matters Arising**
- Item 4. Officers' Reports for 2022**
- |                                     |                |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| Honorary Secretary:                 | Peter Marsden  |
| Honorary Treasurer:                 | Harry Ball     |
| Honorary Editor of <i>Records</i> : | Bob Zeepvat    |
| Honorary Librarian:                 | Sarah Gray     |
| Honorary Archivist:                 | David Noy      |
| Honorary Membership Secretary:      | Nigel Rothwell |
- Item 5. President's Remarks on 2022**      Julian Hunt
- Item 6. Votes of Thanks**
- Item 7(a). Election of the Society's Officers**
- Proposed for election:
- |  |                |
|--|----------------|
| (i) Honorary Chair of the Society:       | Doug Stuckey   |
| (ii) Honorary Secretary:                 | Peter Marsden  |
| (iii) Honorary President:                | Julian Hunt    |
| (iv) Honorary Treasurer:                 | Harry Ball     |
| (v) Honorary Librarian:                  | Sarah Gray     |
| (vi) Honorary Editor of <i>Records</i> : | Bob Zeepvat    |
| (vii) Honorary Archivist:                | David Noy      |
| (viii) Honorary Membership Secretary:    | Nigel Rothwell |

**Item 7(b). Election of Ordinary Members of Council**

Council includes nine Ordinary Members, each eligible for re-election for a maximum continuous term of three years.

**Four serving members who were elected in 2021 and 2022 are therefore eligible for re-election. These are:**

David Hillier, Andrew Kemp, Lucy Lawrence, and Ros Tyrrell.

One member, Lucy Lawrence, will share the co-opted position of Bucks County Archaeological Service. **There are therefore six vacant member positions on Council** and nominations are invited to fill these. Nominations may be proposed and seconded before or at the meeting.

**Item 8. Three changing roles on Council**

Mike Ghirelli, our **Newsletter editor** for the past few years has resigned due to ill health. We need offers of interest or nominations for this co-opted role as well as **Assistant Editor of Records** – to support the Editor with the preparation and integration of **Historical articles**. Thirdly we need an individual with **Publicity** knowledge on Council.

**Item 9. Re-appointment of Honorary Auditor**

Mrs. Joan Dharamshi

**Item 10. Vice Presidents**

Vice-Presidents serve until their resignation or removal by an AGM. The Society's current Vice-Presidents are Colin Dawes, Hugh Hanley, Michael Farley, Maurice Hart, Diana Gulland and Dennis Mynard.

**Item 11. Any Other Business**

Any item of other business must be notified to the Chair of the Society in advance of the meeting.

**Close of Meeting:** The Society's next AGM is scheduled to be held on Saturday 11th May 2024 at 2.00pm.

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# Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2022

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Held in the **Discover Bucks Museum**, Church Street, Aylesbury  
on **Saturday 21 May 2022**, starting at 2pm – simultaneously online via Zoom

## **1: Apologies for absence**

Graham Benjamin, Roger Bettridge, Clare Bull, David Critchley, John Dodd, Mike Farley, Andy Ford, Mike Ghirelli, Philomena and Martin Goodall, David Hillier, Andrew Kemp, Georgina Lomnitz, Christopher Prideaux, Jasmine Reeks, Nigel Rothwell, John Sheldon, Sarah Tricks, Sally Waugh, Bill Willetts, Bob Zeepvat

**Around 30 members attended in person with a similar number online.** The meeting was switched to a smaller room at the last minute when it was discovered that the museum had double-booked the Learning Zone. As a result, no list of attendees was taken.

The Society's President, Julian Hunt, chaired the meeting.

## **2: Minutes of the AGM of 8 May 2021**

The Minutes of the 2021 AGM had been published in the Society's Spring 2022 Newsletter and were accepted without amendment.

## **3: Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

## **4: Officers' reports for 2021**

Three reports from officers had been published in the Spring Newsletter, which was also published online on the Society's website:

- Doug Stuckey, as outgoing Honorary Secretary
  - Nigel Rothwell, as Honorary Membership Secretary
  - Pauline Hey, for the Society's Active Archaeology Group
- Doug Stuckey also read his report to the meeting.
- Harry Ball, as Honorary Treasurer, had circulated his report and the 2021 annual accounts separately. He gave the AGM a correction to the opening balance and reported that the result for the year had been a surplus of £12,985.
  - Sarah Gray, as Honorary Librarian, reported that the Society's Library was open every Wednesday between 10am and 4pm. Cataloguing of new acquisitions was in full swing. A list of accessions for the year was in *Records of Bucks* 62.
  - David Noy, as Honorary Archivist, reported that the collection on the history of Wendover had now been catalogued. This was donated to the Society by the estate of Val Moir, who had been a long-standing and active member of the Society. Other donations of documents had been received from Hugh Hanley and the Gurney Notebooks of the 1930s.



- Bob Zeepvat, as Honorary Editor of Records of Bucks, had sent his apologies for absence – but the new edition of *Records* for 2022, volume 62, which was distributed to members at the meeting, stood as his report.

The officers' reports were accepted by the meeting.

#### **5: President's remarks on 2021: Julian Hunt**

When I joined BAS in 1988, the Society was led by a formidable group of men. Elliott Viney was our President. He had been Chairman of the printing firm of Hazel, Watson and Viney, the largest employer in Aylesbury, and was a former High Sheriff of the County.

Arnold Baines was our Chairman. He was a top-rank civil servant, and was latterly the Chief Statistician at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Dr Robert Hagerty was our Secretary. He was a government scientist who had worked on the 'Blue Streak' project at the Rocket Propulsion Department at nearby Westcott. All three were on the County Council Libraries and Museums Sub-committee.

When I gave my first lecture to the Society, Elliott Viney described it as a 'tour de force.' I didn't really know what that meant, but I was proud to be noticed by such a learned and authoritative man. It was six years before I was invited to join the BAS Council, by which time the County Museum was closed for the construction of the new Art Gallery and the Society's Council meetings were held in a classroom at the former primary school at Halton. I can well remember Arnold Baines holding forth on some detail of an Anglo-Saxon charter whilst the rest of the Council dozed off.

We have come a long way since 1988. We can now locate books and manuscripts via a computer catalogue and our AGM is live-streamed for the benefit of distant members. Today's difficulties with the Museum's internet connection have been overcome by our current Chairman the calm and aplomb, and we meet in a smaller but altogether cosier venue, the Hollis Room, named after an early member of BAS and one-time curator of the County Museum.

#### **6: The society moves on**

Peter Marsden, who had served as Chair of the Society since 2011 and stood down in March, thanked all those members whose contributions had made the Society's success possible during his 11 years as Chair, including all of his colleagues who had served on the Society's Council during that time.

#### **7: Votes of thanks**

The meeting voted its thanks to **Peter Marsden**, for his time as Chair, and to **Mrs Joan Dharamshi** for her inspection of the Society's annual accounts.

#### **8: A change in membership subscriptions**

Over the past two years the activity of the Society had changed to become more 'online'. This allowed events to continue through the Covid pandemic and progressively enhanced access to BAS publications and documents. From this year's *Records of Bucks* (volume 62), the Society intends to provide members with both printed and digital copies. Lectures and meetings will return to the

museum but will also be streamed on Zoom, to retain members who are now geographically more widespread than before.

The forecast for 2022 shows a deficit of £950 (excluding any loss on investments). The Council therefore proposed that from January 2023 BAS annual subscriptions should be:

- Ordinary member      £24.00
- Family member        £26.00
- Junior member        £12.00
- Affiliate member      £26.00

Council estimated that this increase will sustain the Society for several years. Members at the AGM were asked to approve this, or otherwise, by voting for or against.

Honorary membership Secretary Nigel Rothwell said there was a reluctance among members to pay by annual standing order. Only 40 per cent of members paid in this way. Current subscriptions just covered the cost of publishing *Records of Bucks*.

After a brief discussion, members voted to **approve** the new membership subscriptions, with no votes against.

The Membership Secretary appealed to members to change their standing orders to the new subscription levels.

#### **9: Should non-members be charged for attendance at BAS lectures and meetings?**

At present BAS lectures were open to the public for free. Would the AGM consider charging non-members a small fee for access to these events, both in person and online? If members felt this would be a good idea, then Council would explore ways of enabling it. Council would welcome the views of members at the AGM on this issue.

In a short discussion, a range of views were expressed – from our societies obligation to educate the public through to experience from other groups that charge for their lectures. The opinion of the speakers was evenly balanced and made no strong recommendation to BAS Council on this subject.

#### **10a: Election of the Society's Officers**

- Honorary President – Julian Hunt
- Honorary Chair – Doug Stuckey (formerly Honorary Secretary)
- Honorary Secretary – Peter Marsden (formerly Honorary Chair)
- Honorary Treasurer – Harry Ball
- Honorary Membership Secretary – Nigel Rothwell
- Honorary Librarian – Sarah Gray
- Honorary Archivist – David Noy
- Honorary Editor of *Records of Bucks* – Bob Zeepvat

The vote for all of these was unanimous.

**10b: Election of Ordinary members of Council**

Eight of the current nine Ordinary members of Council were eligible for re-election: Andy Ford, Pauline Hey, David Hillier, Andrew Kemp, Lucy Lawrence, Marian Miller, John Sheldon and Ros Tyrrell.

All were re-elected to Council by a unanimous vote.

One member, Allan Burnett, had completed his three-year term, so was not eligible for re-election. The President thanks him for his service on Council.

There was therefore one vacant position on Council. David Saunders was nominated and seconded from the floor, and elected unanimously for a three-year term.

**11: Re-appointment of Honorary Inspector of Accounts**

Mrs Joan Dharamshi was proposed by Harry Ball, seconded by Peter Marsden and elected unanimously by the meeting.

**12: Vice-Presidents**

The Society's vice-presidents serve until their resignation or removal by a vote at AGM. The current vice-presidents are Colin Dawes, Hugh Hanley, Maurice Hart, Diana Gulland and Dennis Mynard. No changes were proposed or required.

**13: Any other business**

There was no other business, so the Honorary President thanked all for attending and closed the meeting.

Minutes taken by Peter Marsden 21 May 2022

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## **BAS AGM Report of the Honorary Treasurer**

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The financial position for the Society was impacted by the drop in interest from our investments. The higher interest rate in 2023 will help. The overall accounts remained positive through control of spending. The accounts for 2022 are still subject to examination and should be approved by the AGM. The accounts for 2022 can be seen at <https://bas1.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/BAS-accounts-year-to-31-December-2022.pdf>

**Harry Ball Honorary Treasurer**

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## Report of the Honorary Membership Secretary

**End 2022 Membership:** overall membership subscriptions increased slightly again in 2022. The survey of Family memberships undertaken during the year also gave us an improved understanding of our actual member numbers, which we now know amounts to roughly an additional 100 people on top of the number of paid subscriptions.



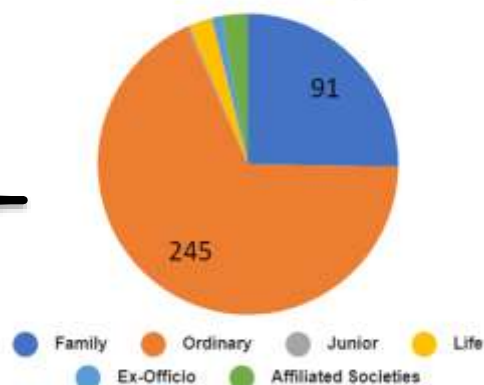
**2023 Renewal:** Membership subscriptions are always due for renewal at the beginning of January. For the 2023 membership year letters and emails inviting renewal were sent out in early December. This was done to remind members of the increase in subs (approved by the 2022 AGM); to ask members to amend their payments accordingly; and to get ahead of the planned Christmas postal strikes! Follow-up reminders were then sent in early February, and again in early March. Copies of RoB63 will only be provided as a membership benefit to those members who are fully up to date with their subscription payments.

**Current membership status:** A consequence of asking all members to update their payment arrangements was that some took the opportunity to reassess whether they wished to remain with the Society. Thus, we have seen an unusually high number of resignations at the start of the new year, but these are typically age, ability, or location, rather than cost, related. We have also seen a small but significant switch from Family to Ordinary memberships. Membership subscription status, including members in arrears (those who have not yet paid the full subscription rate for 2023) to 20<sup>th</sup> March 2023 is as shown.

**Paid-up Membership subscriptions (to 20 March 2023)**



**Membership Category Paid Memberships = 359**



**How you can help:** The Society relies on the support and contributions of its membership, including subscriptions, which help to fund activities and publications. It is immensely helpful if subs are paid on time, or if we are informed of an intent not to renew, as this helps save having to chase up. It is also helpful if members can Gift Aid subscription payments, as this is financially beneficial to the Society at no extra cost to the subscriber; and if you are able to pay by Bank Standing Order, this also helps reduce our administration and cost. Thank you for your continued support.  
Thank you for your continued support.

**Nigel Rothwell**  
**Honorary Membership Secretary**

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### **Welcome to our new members joining since Autumn 2022**

On behalf of the BAS Council, Committee, and existing membership, I would like to extend a warm welcome to the following who have joined the Society. We hope you find it interesting and enjoyable, and we look forward to your participation in our activities and your support in furthering the aims of the Society.

Baron Bratby  
John Chilver  
Diana Connolly  
Patrick Corcoran  
Alison Gee & James Webster  
Beth Hall  
Emma Hoare  
Katrina Hughes  
Noel James  
Ken Keasley

John Leckie  
Jane & Gary Sculpher  
Natalie Sefton  
James Sherriff  
Jean Slater  
Paul Stickley  
B. M. A. Thompson  
Kelvin White & Julia Sallabank  
Kim Williams

Please do get in contact with a Committee member if you would like to get further involved.

**Nigel Rothwell**  
**Honorary Membership Secretary**

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## AAG REPORT FOR BAS NEWSLETTER

Spring 2023

We have currently paused digging at the Great Linford ha-ha until the days are a bit longer and the weather improves, though we may be back by the time you are reading this. We are approaching the end of this excavation, but still have some further work to do around the southern end of the ha-ha, as well as completing recording of Trenches 1 and 7, prior to backfilling.

We started with 3 trenches, but added more, and while they are numbered consecutively,



the positions were determined by our discoveries, and questions raised by the earlier trenches. The diagram, superimposed on the Environment Agency LiDAR survey of 2019, will help to clarify where each trench is.

### Positions of the trenches

Trench 9, near the access road, revealed a further length of the wall, which appears to line up with a hollow on the other side of the road, but has now been backfilled because it was so close to the road, and presented a possible hazard to walkers in the area.

Trench 2 has also been backfilled.

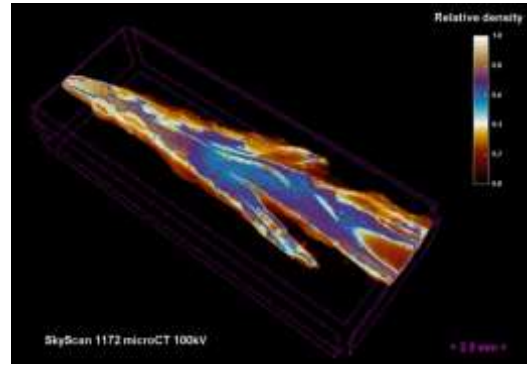
Trench 1 remains open, until recording is complete. The bottom of the ditch in this trench shows a number of different and undulating layers, which demonstrate that the ditch is considerably older than the wall (probably medieval), and has had several episodes of re-profiling.

A section of the ha-ha wall has been removed near the top of the picture, in order to establish how it was constructed. **Trench 1**





We found a 14 /15<sup>th</sup> century arrowhead in the mid clay layer of trench 1, in a fairly secure context



**Arrowhead and x-ray showing its construction**



Trench 3 revealed a particularly good section of the ha-ha wall, which the landowner was very tempted to reconstruct as a feature of the park, but eventually decided against.

**Trench 3 showing wall**

In Trench 7 we have located the front and back of the wall, which has suffered episodes of collapse and is leaning forward.



**Trench 7 Shows the wall leaning, but the rear edge not yet excavated**

At the southern end, where there is less evidence of the ditch to guide us, finding the wall has been more difficult. This area is hindered by a lot of tree roots restricting where we can place trenches, and we had to rearrange one trench when we found a hibernating grass snake right where we planned to dig. The snake is apparently a well-known resident of the manor grounds, known as Snakey.



By joining up some of our existing trenches and adding one or two new ones, we have established that the wall curves gently to the west, probably following the boundary of the manor house garden. A little more clarification is still needed in this area, as well as recording and eventually backfilling.

**Trench 5 in foreground, with trenches 8, 11 and 12 behind, and AAG members discussing next actions**

During the October half-term, in association with the Parks Trust, we had a very successful Open Day. We were too busy to count the numbers, but think around 70 to 80 people attended, mostly families with children, many of whom were very interested to see a real dig. Conducted tours of the dig were running all afternoon, and we had many of our finds on display for people to handle and talk about. The Parks Trust had several children's activities, and were giving out 'goodie bags' of relevant items. They brought 40 bags, and actually ran out.



**Our finds display at the Open Day**

Great Linford is drawing to a close, and we hope to be finished by about May, barring any more surprises. We hope to be able to continue digging at another site at nearby Stanton Low, but the details are still under discussion.

*The photographs in this item are mostly courtesy of Doug Stuckey with some being by Pauline Hey.*

## **AAG Talks**

Our winter meetings and talks started in September, with Rachel Woods giving us a fascinating talk (on Zoom) on the Living and the Dead; an Anglo-Saxon Cemetery near Wendover. She has given this talk several times, so some of us heard it twice – but it is a site of such interest that there is always something new to learn.

After Rachel's talk, we changed our day to Tuesday at the museum's request, and the plan was that we would meet in the museum, but would also stream the talks on Zoom for those who were unable to attend in person, giving the speakers the option of coming to the museum or giving their talk on Zoom.

**The October 11<sup>th</sup> talk** was Bob Zeepvat explaining the history of St Andrews Church at Great Linford (which was originally scheduled for last April, but the technology had other ideas). Bob elected to talk via Zoom, so most of our number also chose to use Zoom – only three of us attended the museum. The church has a complicated history and Bob was involved in some of the digging which took place inside the church, so we learned much



more about Great Linford. The church has a great deal of graffiti, which Doug Stuckey and Gary Marshall have been recording, and are still sorting out. They have about 180 photographs, and plan to end up with some guidance notes so that the rest of us can look at our local churches and record their graffiti.

**On November 8th**, Mike Farley led a workshop on pottery identification. As much of the session was hands-on, we had around 20 to 30 people attending the museum, though some opted to attend on Zoom, which limited participation in the hands-on part. Everyone clearly enjoyed the session and learned more about pottery and how to date it.

**December 13<sup>th</sup>** was intended to be a Christmas party, with everyone bringing nibbles, and Doug's now traditional quiz (no prizes) on the Stone Circles of Northern Europe. However, it was during the week when the snow fell and everywhere was quite icy, so we felt it would be unwise to expect people to travel to the museum and changed it to just on Zoom – which meant no shared nibbles (maybe Easter eggs in due course), but the quiz was enjoyed as well as the following round up of what we have all been doing. We don't know as much as we might like to think about the stone circles – there were 28 marks available and most of us got around 15 !

The talk on **January 10th 2023** (in the museum and on Zoom) was Doug Stuckey telling us about some recent developments in finding Iron Age settlements in lowland Scotland, where people have long been puzzled by the large number of hillforts (perhaps better called enclosures, since many are not fortified, and not all are on hills) Recent investigations, particularly LiDAR surveys have now shown that the countryside is generously spattered with small scale settlements, mostly still to be investigated.

**On February 14<sup>th</sup>** David Saunders (a BAS council member and freelance archaeologist) will talk about Cursus Monuments of Bucks and the Great Ouse Valley, on which he has done a lot of work. This meeting will also be in the museum, but streamed via Zoom.

**The March 14<sup>th</sup>** meeting will be James Wright, with the title A Beginner's Guide to Castles, but it is not exactly a beginner's guide – more a look at castles from a different perspective and how they were planned and intended to be used. As James lives a considerable distance away, he will appear on Zoom, but we will meet in the museum, and via Zoom.

**April 11<sup>th</sup>** will be a further talk from David Saunders, with the intriguing title Three Queens and the Discovery of Cave Art, and **May 9<sup>th</sup>** will be Simon Binns (who is an AAG member) talking about Arminghall Henge in Norfolk, where he was able to spend a couple of weeks digging last summer, when a dig from the 1930s was revisited. Both of these talks will be in the museum, but streamed via Zoom.

We have part of next autumn's programme arranged – on **October 10<sup>th</sup>** Kris Lockyear, Senior Lecturer at UCL, will talk about geophysics with particular reference to the work he has done over the last few years at Verulamium (St Albans), and on November 14<sup>th</sup> Paul Tate from LBDAS will update us on the search for Old Linslade Holy Well and the interesting discoveries made there.

It is planned that these will also be in the museum but streamed via Zoom

The **December 12<sup>th</sup>** meeting will be another of Doug Stuckey's quizzes, plus – we hope- a live Christmas party.

The talks are on the second Tuesday of each month, starting at 7.30pm – everyone is welcome, including those who are not AAG members. Refreshments are provided for a small donation.

**Pauline Hey** February 2023

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## Library & Archive report to AGM 2023

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### ADDITIONS TO THE SOCIETY'S LIBRARY AND ARCHIVE in 2022

- ANON. A Portfolio of Prints Illustrating Buckingham Parish Church, 1980.
- ANON. Manor of Hartwell, Chronology. (photocopy)
- ANON. Ship Money: the Arguments of Sir Richard Hatton, 1641 (pamphlet)
- ANON. St Lawrence Church, Winslow, the Kneelers.
- ARCHER, JEAN. Hidden Buckinghamshire, 1999.
- ARMITAGE, HILARY. The History of Wickes Park.
- ASHLEY, R.J., Visitors' Guide to Buckinghamshire (8<sup>th</sup> edn.).
- BUCKS CC. County Structure Plan, 1976.
- BUCKS CC. Minerals Subject Plan, 1978.
- BUCKS COUNTY MUSEUM. Old Photographs of Buckinghamshire, 1985.
- BUCKS FEDERATION WIs. Buckinghamshire: A Century in Photographs.
- BUSH, BOB and ELIZABETH. The Aylesbury and Wendover Canals.
- COLE, NORMAN and JEWSON, WARREN. Echoes of the Past, 1967.
- COOK, ROBERT. Britain in Old Photographs: Milton Keynes
- COOK, ROBERT. Buckingham and District in Old Photographs, 1994.
- COOK, ROBERT. Chalford Oral History: Bletchley
- CULLEY, GEORGE. Musings of an Old Farmer, 1985.
- CUTHBERT, M.E. et al. The Bells of St. James, Bierton.
- DELAFIELD, THOMAS. A History of Chilton, 1818.
- DIXON, TONY. But for a Little More Evidence: a Family History of William Ayres, Gypsy, 2011.
- DONNELLY, LIAM. Edward Winslow's English Unions Vol. 1.
- DUNN, COLIN S. The Parish Church of St Lawrence, Winslow.
- EUREKA PARTNERSHIP. 5 prints: Swanbourne Baptist Church, Great Brickhill Particular Baptist Church, Waddesdon Particular Baptist Church, Winslow Old Baptist Chapel, c1970.
- FISK, EUGENE. Milton Keynes, a Personal View, 1981.
- GREENWOOD, MARTIN. Fringford through the Ages, 2000.
- GREENWOOD, MARTIN. Villages of Banburyshire, 2006.
- HARDING, PETER. The Cross on the Cross at Quainton, 2017. (typescript)
- HARRISON, J.T. and CLEAR, A. Leisure Notes on Historical Buckingham, reprinted with An Account of the Town and Manor of Winslow.
- HOLLIS, CAROL. Mursley Parish Church.
- HULL, EDWARD. The William Cowper Album, 1981.

- JENKINS, HOWARD M. The Family of William Penn, 1899.
- KING, STUART. Pitstone Windmill, a report of investigations, 2021.
- LAMB, CADBURY. Discovering Buckinghamshire, 1968.
- LESTER, DEREK. Clarendon and History: a case study of the Battle of Chalgrove, 2021. (offprint)
- MARSHALL, TIM. Buckinghamshire Clock and Watchmakers, 2019.
- MEADOWS, KATHLEEN. Buckingham in 1932, 1993.
- MEREDITH, ANTHONY and BLACKWELL, GORDON. Silverstone Circuit through Time, 2013.
- MILLER, EDGAR. Parsons of Old Buckingham.
- OLD GAOL BUCKINGHAM. Sir George Gilbert Scott.
- OSBORN, BOB and ROBERTS, KEN. Remembering Padbury's Fallen, 2018.
- PARROTT, T.G. The Story of the Parish Church of St. Mary Aylesbury (10<sup>th</sup> edn.).
- PATTICK, BETTY. Ghosts of Buckinghamshire, 1995
- PEARSON, JOSS. Bletchley Park's Secret Room, 2015.
- PORTABLE ANTIQUITIES SCHEME. Annual Report, 2017.
- QUICK, KEVIN. 3 volumes of War Memorials and War Graves: Milton Keynes and Wolverton, Cottesloe Hundred, Buckingham Hundred.
- RANDALL, MARK. Winslow Fallen in the Great War, 2018.
- RAPHAEL, R. AND SONS. Walton Lodge – A Brief History.
- SERGEANT, JOHN M. The Story of Hethe.
- SHIRLEY, RODNEY. The Manor House, Buckingham.
- SHRIMPTON, W. Notes on a Decayed Needle-Land, 1897 (reprint).
- SIMPSON, BILL. The Wolverton to Newport Pagnell Branch.
- SMITH, MIKE. Buckingham Old Gaol.
- SMITH-MASTERS, REV. J.E. St. Michael's Church, Stewkley, 1908-1920.
- ST. JAMES CHURCH, BIERTON. War Intercessions.
- STOKES, REV. H.P. Cowper Memorials
- TAYLOR, BILL. The Great Central Railway on old Picture Postcards, 2007.
- TINGEWICK HISTORICAL SOCIETY. Tingewick's Fallen Soldiers of the Great War.
- TURRELL, PAUL. Notes on Find of Medieval Pottery, British Legion Hall, Princes Risborough.
- VARIOUS. Haddenham Chronicles Vols. 17 and 19.
- VERNEY, SIR HARRY. Florence Nightingale at Harley Street.
- WALKER, WILLIAM L.B. The Aylesbury Brewery Company 1895-1978. (printout)
- WARSON, GILLIAN R. Fact and Fiction: Flora Thompson and the Fewcott Post Book
- WRIGHT, THOMAS. Alders from Olney no. 3: the Market-Hill Tree.
- WRIGHT, THOMAS. The Wilderness at Weston Underwood, 1927.

### **Printed primary sources**

- NOY, DAVID (ed.). Chetwode Wills and Disputes. Buckinghamshire Record Society, Volume 41, 2022.

## Archives

### *Collection of Norman Saving*

2 Adstock deeds: Robert Corbett to Thomas Jackson; Thomas Bowler to Joseph Dudley.

Buckingham deed: plan signed by J. Harrison.

Magazine printed excerpts: Pictorial Times 1845, Salt Hill Murder; Illustrated London News 1845 Queen Victoria to Stowe, 1846 Queen's Staghounds in Vale of Aylesbury, 1848 Stowe Sale, 1860 Steam carriage Castle Foundry Buckingham, 1865 Opening of Aylesbury Corn Exchange, 1890 Queen Victoria to Aylesbury and Waddesdon.

Magazine printed excerpts: Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News Mentmore, The Graphic 1882 Indian Contingent at Stowe

Notes on Florence Nightingale and the Verney family.

Notes on the Gawcott Strike.

Documents collection Calvert: pamphlets, photographs, membership cards.

Documents collection Quainton.

### *Collection of Dennis Mynard*

Letter, Edward Lane to Robert Miller, 1812

Letter, Frere Forster to Hearn and Hearn, 1847

Letter, Sir Harry Verney to George Nelson, 1866

### *Collection of Hugh Hanley*

Drawings and typescripts by Eric Throssell of buildings, gardens, the Hampden family and Sir William Lee at Hartwell House, 2000-2005.

TAYLOR-MOORE, KIM. The Comparative Development of Aylesbury and Buckingham, 2006 (typescript).

Service of Thanksgiving for Robert Paterson Hagerty (1916-1999)

Service of Thanksgiving for Kathleen Chisholm Hagerty (1921-2014)

Obituary E. Clive Rouse in The Independent (1997)

The (Vernon)Scannell Trail, (typescript).

Art of the Architect, handlist for Celebration of Commissions of Eric Throssell.

Brochure: H.G.Matthews (brickyard) of Bellingdon, Chesham.

### *Collection of June Strong*

Folders of notes on an excavation at Warmstone and Warmstone history.

Rolls of Waddesdon and Over Winchendon field map and Weston Underwood Field Survey.

Drawings of Waddesdon and Fleet Marston.



## Photographs and prints

Photographs of Calvert Brickworks, 1960s-1970s.

Photographs of Bucks and Thame Shows at Hartwell House, 1970s-1980s.

Album of postcards and photographs of Buckingham.

Album of postcards and photographs of Gawcott and Thornborough.

Photographic copy of 1767 map of Hogshaw (original in Bucks Archives).

Collection of Bucks photographs (Norman Saving collection).

Print of Quainton church (Norman Saving collection).

CDs of Stanley Freese' watermill photographs, A-T and W-.

Photographs of Weston Turville watermill, 2007.

Engraving of John Wilkes Esq., 1763.

In addition, the usual journals, magazines and local society newsletters were received.

Members are welcome to borrow recent journals and magazines and to drop by the Library on Wednesday 10am to 4pm.

***Sarah Gray, Hon. Librarian***

***David Noy, Hon. Archivist***



## A Recipe for the Ague – Medieval cure

### Don't try this at home!

My research into Quarrendon recently led me to the library of the excellent Museum of English Rural Life in Reading. Mr J B (Bertram) Clark used to farm at Uppings and when he retired in 1966, he left a very interesting collection of documents to the Museum. Amongst the more ancient oddments is an unattributed and undated (probably 18th century) "Receipt for the Ague". This rather baffled me until a little Googling revealed that willow bark was used to treat malaria. Here is a transcript of the receipt complete with 18th century spelling.

### "A Receipt for ye Ague

Gitt a Quarter of an ounce of the Rozim of the Bark & pound it in a Morter or any thing else to Powder & then devide it into four Equal parts and put them into some Wafer Paper and take two of ye Papers which is half the above Quantity About 2 Hours before you Exspect ye fitt to come on & ye other 2 papers, about an Hour & Half or 2 Hours after the fitt of Ague & feavour is off. you must take some Water & boyl it & put a Peace of Tosted Bread into it & take about Quarter of a pint of it, or more, to wash it down with. you must lett it be better than Milk Worm, when you take it. You may, if you can take it better mixt it in some Water, & wash it down with it but its very bitter, so you had better take it rapt up in the Wafer paper. Which will be about ye Bigness of a Boluss. It's very much like pitch, & you may [the corner of the paper is missing here] ye Chymist in London"

(The reference at the Museum is FRDX212/17)

**Marian Miller** March 2023



## Chetwode Mill, now excavated by Cotswold Archaeology



In 2021 a research archaeologist from HS2 asked BAS to produce a report on a site that would be impacted by an access road to the new rail line. The report was used to extend the archaeological investigation into the build stage. Cotswold Archaeology have now completed the work and produced a summary report [HERE](#). The finds include an impressive Mesolithic Mace head.

**Doug Stuckey**

## BAS Summer Outings 2023

We are still planning three outings - 15 July **Banbury**, 19 August **Long Crendon** and 16 September **Bradenham**.

### Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July, an all-day visit to Banbury.

With **Sarah Gray**. To local historians the archetypal market town, the 'metropolis of the carrier's cart'. No coach but public transport is good and anybody stuck for a lift should contact Sarah Gray [sarahgray707@btinternet.com](mailto:sarahgray707@btinternet.com). We will base ourselves at Banbury Museum & Gallery, right next to the South Oxford Canal and Tooley's Boatyard, the oldest yard still working on the Canal since 1778.

We will meet at the Museum at **10.30am** for coffee before an introductory talk and a morning visit to Tooley's Boatyard. Then we will look round the Museum galleries before lunch, either a picnic or the museum cafe. Then an afternoon walk round Banbury and St Mary's church before free time from 3pm.

Maximum numbers 25 and we will need to charge £10 for museum and speakers' costs.



Any enquiries to Sarah on [sarahgray707@btinternet.com](mailto:sarahgray707@btinternet.com).

The Museum address is: Banbury Museum & Gallery Museum & Gallery Spiceball Park Rd Banbury OX16 2PQ and for parking and location advice see the Museum's website <https://www.banburymuseum.org/plan-your-visit/>

### Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> August, visit to Long Crendon

With **Julian Hunt**



A meander around the village. From the medieval Courthouse visit the Church and Church House, Old Needle House and the needle factory site in Harroell.

Refreshment will be available from the Churchill Arms.

Some parking is available near the shops on the main road.

Any enquiries to Julian

at [bucksas@discoverbucksmuseum.org](mailto:bucksas@discoverbucksmuseum.org)

### Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September, visit to Bradenham

Guided walk around Bradenham led by **Marian Miller**.

The archetypal English village; church, manor house and farm with cottages set around the village green, now mainly owned by the National Trust. A gentle stroll on level ground, mainly grass so stout footwear is advisable.



Meet at the Church lych-gate at **1.30pm** – the walk should take no longer than 1 ½ hours.

The Red Lion Tea Room is open until 4pm if you'd like to have refreshments before or after the walk – booking is advisable <https://www.redliontearoom.co.uk/>

Parking near the cricket pavilion reached by the track along the south side of the green. Any enquiries to Marian on [marianjanemiller@gmail.com](mailto:marianjanemiller@gmail.com)



Branches of the Young Archaeologists' Club (YAC) are co-ordinated by the Council for British Archaeology. There is a growing network of local branches across the UK where young people aged 8–16 can get involved in heritage and archaeology. Buckinghamshire has two branches. We at Chiltern YAC have been encouraging youngsters to discover the delights (and mud) of archaeology and history for many years and are looking forward to celebrating our 25th anniversary in 2024. Whilst we are not part of BAS, we hope that our contributions to the Newsletter demonstrates the opportunities available to actively engage with the next generation of potential archaeologists and historians.

In November 2022, we were fortunate to secure a sponsorship arrangement for our Branch with HeritageDaily, the independent publisher registered at St Albans <https://www.heritagedaily.com/>. This welcome support enables us to be more ambitious in offering a more varied and exciting programme for our youngsters.



**October:** For Black History Month, we looked at the Benin Bronzes, debated the question of repatriation and proved that experimental archaeology does not always work as our chocolate “lost wax” experiment just oozed everywhere!

**December:** For our annual Christmas Party, we had a public screening of our Victorian lacemaking video sponsored by English Heritage / Shout out Loud with an accompanying award ceremony: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OIQ\\_Fw9pwxw&t=7s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OIQ_Fw9pwxw&t=7s)

There was also chocolate, cherries and edible gold dust as we baked and decorated “jeweled” Christmas lebkuchen biscuits.







**January:** Thanks to HeritageDaily we organised a visit for Branch members and their families to the Hieroglyphs Exhibition at the British Museum. There was some excellent hieroglyph decoding from our youngest member.

**February:** We continued investigating Ancient Egyptian life and death and created our own Shabtis. Everyone had to designate the task that they would like their Shabti (or servant in an afterlife) to take on for them. Doing homework was most popular, although one far sighted youngster decided he would like to delegate cooking as that would continue forever in the afterlife!



**March:** We looked at how archaeologists are transforming our knowledge of the Anglo-Saxons, particularly the recent discoveries from Buckinghamshire and neighboring environs. We then experimented with creating some Anglo-Saxon “bling” by gilding a plaster “brooch”. The gold(ish) leaf was fairly easy to apply but the red silver leaf to replicate garnets went everywhere...

Chiltern YAC are unaffiliated to any museum and we are always keen to engage with outside speakers, crafts people, sites of interest and of course any opportunities for excavation or other archaeological activities. If you could help us identify any of the above, or are interested in volunteering or for more information please contact us at: <mailto:chilternyac@hotmail.co.uk>



## Restoration of Friendless Churches in Bucks

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The Friends of Friendless Churches is a society that protects abandoned chapels and churches in England and also a large number of churches in Wales. Bucks Archaeological Society is a member and there are three churches in Bucks that it protects. In 2022 the FoFC AGM was held at Hardmead (a small village in North Bucks). Hardmead Church has recently had a large repair programme. See <https://friendsoffriendlesschurches.org.uk/church/assumption-of-the-blessed-virgin-mary-hardmead/>

The chapel at Upper Winchendon has also been given a restoration in 2022 with re-roofing and plastering. It is a very beautiful survivor of a non-Conformist meeting house and very easy for BAS members to visit. See <https://friendsoffriendlesschurches.org.uk/church/strict-particular-baptist-chapel-waddesdon-hill-buckinghamshire/>



**Upper Winchendon Chapel**

© Friends of Friendless Churches

**George C Lamb**

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BUCKINGHAMSHIRE  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
SOCIETY

**B** Discover Bucks  
Museum

## Discover Bucks Museum

The main galleries in the Museum are now open.

For access to the BAS Library, the current arrangements will continue. Please pre-book your visit with the Library team

[Bucksas@discoverbucksmuseum.org](mailto:Bucksas@discoverbucksmuseum.org) Tel. 01296 798015).

## Exhibitions and Events at the Museum

### Family Fun Easter activities

3 – 15 April 2023 (closed Sunday 9 April)



Join us for our Egg-cellent Easter Craft Activities in the first week and Your Amazing Brain themed crafts and activities in the second week. Enjoy our Easter egg trail on every day over the holidays.

[Discover More](#)

### Last chance to see Your Amazing Brain

On now until 15 April 2023

You have an amazing brain, in fact everybody does! But how does it make sense of the world around you? Find out before it's too late in this wonderful hands-on family friendly exhibition before it closes on Saturday 15 April 2023

[Discover More](#)



## Open Art Exhibition

29 April - 8 July 2023



Discover stunning art created by professional and amateur artists from Buckinghamshire. Come and see this exciting selling show.

[Discover More](#)

## Roald Dahl Children's Gallery

Easter holidays 3-15 April 2023 (closed 9 April) 10am - 5pm  
The Roald Dahl Children's Gallery, packed full of amazing exhibits, is like walking into an enormous pop-up book. Crawl along Fantastic Mr Fox's tunnel, discover inventions with Willy Wonka, investigate minibeasts inside the Giant Peach plus much more!



[Discover More](#)

## ***Tudor recycling: Monumental brasses in Buckinghamshire and the Reformation***

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A recent article by Hutchinson (2020), 'Iconoclasm and profit: sales of despoiled monumental brasses and tombs in London, 1547-53', may be of interest to members. Hutchinson notes four Buckinghamshire churches, namely Waddesdon, Twyford, Great Hampden and Halton, which contain brasses whose reverse sides shows previous use elsewhere. The brasses have been noted previously in various issues of *Records* but Hutchinson throws new light on the subject.

Henry the eight's divorce from Rome had led to the removal of 'popish' monuments and the destruction or sale of numerous religious establishments, and this was continued with fervour by his son Edward the sixth (1547-53). During Edward's reign a lucrative trade in both brasses and other monuments took place. Hutchinson estimates that potentially 700-812 brasses were removed from London churches. The 'marblers', as the brass-makers were known, were also happy to accept other church goods for recycling such as candlesticks and crucifixes.

An illustration of the brass at Twyford is included here.



Left current view of the Twyford brass, and right the reverse.

On the left is Thomas Giffard who died in 1550. The image on the right is of the reverse which shows that his figure is made up from 'portions of two other figures, whilst numerous smaller pieces have been soldered on to make up corners and points. The upper half of the figure [on the right] has been cut from the centre of an early period priest robed in mass vestments' the bottom half 'is composed of about two-thirds of the lower portion of an ecclesiastic in academics of date about 1440-50' (Stephenson 1909).



Of the memorial to Sir John Hampden and his two wives, dated 1553, in Great Hampden church



Current view of brass of Sir John Hampden and his two wives.

Hutchinson notes that is composed of brasses from two city churches and a hospital.

Perhaps one of the more entertaining images that Hutchinson illustrates (his Fig. 11) is that of John White of Southwick, Hants. White had arranged (c.1520) for the depiction of two daughters to accompany him on the brass but subsequently acquired two more. Instead of inscribing a completely new brass the enterprising marblers found a pair of daughters on another brass (dating c. 1548) and fitted the two together!

Brasses and church monuments in general were a particular interest of early BAS members. A quick look at the society's on-line searchable index produces many article titles on the subject. An increasing number of the articles (thanks to a dedicated band!), are now available on-line.

#### References:

Hutchinson R 2022. Iconoclasm and profit: sales of despoiled monumental brasses and tombs in London, 1547-53, *The Antiquaries Journal* 102, 316-341, [ Incidentally, it is now possible to join the Antiquaries as an Affiliate member which gives access to the Society's splendid library.]

Stephenson M 1909. Note on a palimpsest brass at Twyford. *Recs Bucks* 9, 323-328.

**Mike Farley**

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## Farnham Royal, Seer Green and the Coronation of Kings

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The coronation of King Charles III is due to take place on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023. On 5<sup>th</sup> January the Cabinet Office established a Coronation Claims Office, launching a process to determine who would perform ceremonial roles for the coronation. Applicants were required to provide proof that a direct ancestor had taken part in a previous coronation. The 'Times' newspaper ran a story on this, using the hereditary (and controversial) example of the provision of a glove to support the monarch's right hand whilst holding the sceptre.

In the year 2000, Farnham Royal commemorated the new millennium by unveiling new village signs. These incorporate a ceremonial glove, symbolic of the former royal connection of the manor of Farnham. How did this connection come about and what has happened to it?

The Domesday Book tells us that the manor of Farnham [Royal] was held of the king by Bertram [I] de Verdun. The manor, together with the hamlet of Cere / Sere / Shere [Seer Green], was subsequently passed to his descendants. It seems most likely that Bertram I's great-grandson, Bertram [III] de Verdun, was awarded the manor to hold by act of *Grand Sergeanty*, for showing loyalty to Henry II during the Revolt of 1173-4 by Henry's wife, Eleanor of Aquitaine, and his sons. At that time Bertram III was Sheriff of Warwickshire and Leicestershire, as well as Lord and Tenant-in-Chief of Farnham. This meant that he then held the manor through providing a service, rather than by the more customary knight's fee, and it earned Farnham the epithet 'Royal.'

The first time the grand sergeanty is explicitly mentioned in court records is in the 'Inquisition Post Mortem' for Theobald [I] de Verdun in 1309: *Farnham. The manor with the hamlet of Le Shere, held of the king in chief, by service of finding a glove for his right hand on the king's coronation day, and supporting with his gloved hand the king's right arm whilst he shall hold the sceptre.*

The hereditary honour, along with manor, was passed through the de Verdun family until the extinction of the senior male line with the death of Theobald II in 1316. It then passed by marriage into the Furnival family.

The act is described in detail in 'The Anonimale Chronicle 1333 to 1381.' Recording the coronation of Richard II in 1377: *William Furnivall's serjeanty was to find a red glove for the king's right hand and to support his right arm while he held the sceptre. This service was derived from his tenure of the manor of Farnham Royal (co. Bucks) with the hamlet of Cere. In order to perform it he was specially knighted at Kennington the Tuesday before the coronation, ... The true order [of the coronation ceremony] is given by the Chronicon Anglie, which first introduces Furnivall at the investment with the sceptre, the rod and the rest of the regalia — a ... later stage in the ceremony. The chronicle, it should be noted, carefully distinguishes between the sceptre (with its orb and cross) and the verge roiale (surmounted*

*with the form of a dove). But Furnivall's petition presented at the preliminary court of claims apparently uses the words verge roiale to mean sceptre.*

Through marriage, the manor, and the grand sergeanty, then passed through the Neville family to the Talbot's. Lady Maud de Neville, Baroness Furnival, married John Talbot, 1<sup>st</sup> Earl of Shrewsbury (of whom, Shakespeare in 'Henry VI Part 1,' says "*Valiant Lord Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury, Created, for his rare success in arms*").

The manor of Farnham Royal then remained with the Earl's of Shrewsbury until Henry VIII exchanged it for the manor (and dissolved abbey) of Worksop, and the grand sergeanty therefore also went with it to Worksop. In Henry's will of 1550, Farnham Royal was bestowed on Elizabeth.

Meanwhile, the manor of Worksop, together with the grand sergeanty, continued to be inherited through the Earl's of Shrewsbury. Then by marriage it was transferred to the Earl of Arundel, and then to the Duke of Norfolk in 1677. In 1839 the manor of Worksop was sold to the 4<sup>th</sup> Duke of Newcastle-under-Lyne and so the grand sergeanty passed to the Duke's of Newcastle.

In 1937, for the coronation of George VI, the Earl of Lincoln, acting as deputy to his father, the 8<sup>th</sup> Duke of Newcastle, performed the grand sergeanty. But in 1953, the Lord Chancellor ruled that the 9<sup>th</sup> Duke of Newcastle should be denied the right to present Queen Elizabeth II's glove, because he had recently placed the manor under corporate ownership. The task was instead given to Lord Woolton, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, as he had recently undergone surgery for a perforated appendix and was too frail for his official duty of holding the sword of state. He was seated behind Prince Philip so that he had the shortest possible walk to hand the glove to the Queen.

In 1988, with the death of the 9<sup>th</sup> Duke of Newcastle, the Dukedom became extinct, and in 1994 the trustees of the Newcastle estate decided to put the lordship up for auction. It was controversially sold through 'The Manorial Guild,' being purchased by John Hunt, a retired haulage contractor. Apparently, "*The Palace sniffily says that his claim [to performing the grand sergeanty] will be decided when the time comes.*" John Hunt died in December 2016, but he is still listed on the self-proclaimed Manorial Register as Lord of the manor of Worksop.

Alas, if you have not already submitted your claim, then you are too late – the closing date was 3<sup>rd</sup> February.

For a fuller account of the lives of the Lords of the manor of Seer Green (and Farnham Royal), including the full directory of sources and references used for this article, see [ourlivingvillage.org](http://ourlivingvillage.org).

## Nigel Rothwell

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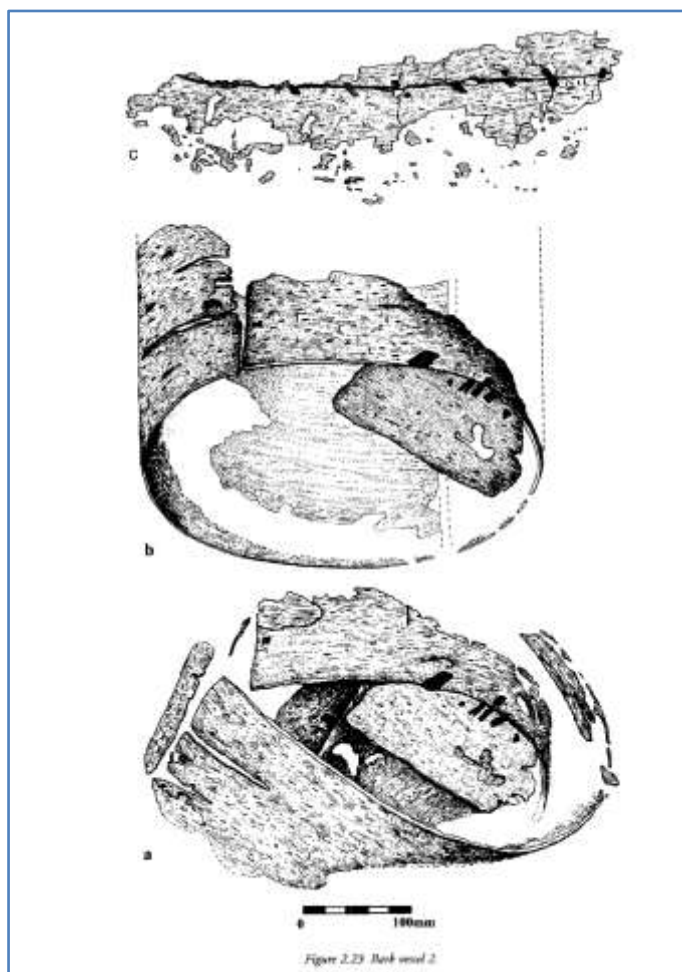


## A Remarkable Neolithic find at Horton.

Members will recall that the society's Constitution defines 'Buckinghamshire' as possessing the same boundaries as it did when the society was founded in 18\*\*. So – yes, Eton, Slough and Milton Keynes remain within our remit. However, archaeological discoveries falling within these areas but now beyond the county's administrative boundary (such as at Horton described below) sometimes fail to gain the society's attention.

Longstanding waterlogged deposits can contain some amazing survivals including wood, textile, leather, etc. Decades ago the Somerset 'lake village' was the best-known of such sites in England. Since then there have been plenty of interesting examples of preservation, perhaps the most notable of being the extraordinary discovery at Must Farm, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire of the well-preserved remains of three burnt late Bronze Age houses together with much of their content and adjacent palisading (*Antiquity* 2019, 645-663).

Buckinghamshire can't match these discoveries but there have been interesting finds. For example, excavations at Wavendon Gate in Milton Keynes, produced a small wooden wheel thought to indicate the survival of a Celtic ritual, and from the same site came a Roman sandal and part of a writing tablet (*BAS Monograph 10*. 1996). At Westbury, also in Milton Keynes, two waterlogged mid-Saxon wells produced a bucket base, a hurdle and part of a ladder (*BAS Monograph 8*.1995). Some years ago, Oxford Archaeology's excavations in advance of construction of the Eton Rowing Lake at Dorney produced, among other finds, in-situ uprights, wattle hurdles and an ard, probably of Iron Age date but unfortunately yet to be published.



A discovery made in 1990 at Manor Farm, Horton in south Buckinghamshire during archaeological investigations by Thames Valley Archaeological Services in advance of the excavation of a new channel adjacent to the Colne, encountered a waterlogged Neolithic monument. One find which lay on the base of its circular ditch consisted of the remains of perhaps six fragmentary birch-bark containers, the best surviving being B2 (Fig.1).

### Neolithic birch-bark container from Horton

It consisted of two sections of the container's side and part of its base which had been stitched on with lime bast fibre. Radiocarbon dates produced calibrated dates falling between 3340 and 2610 BC.

In northern regions where birch has generally been widely available, its use wasn't just restricted to small items and was also used for example for roofing buildings, the outer shell of tepees, and canoes. The illustration of the latter was taken in Quebec.



Birch bark canoe. Photograph taken in Quebec

Thanks are due to TVAS for permission to include illustrations of the Horton find. For further details see:

Preston, Steve ed. 2003. Neolithic ring ditches and Roman landscape features at Horton (1989-1996). *Prehistoric, Roman and Saxon sites in East Berkshire. Excavations 1989-1997*. Thames Valley Archaeological Services Monograph 2.

See Earwood C.1988. *Domestic wooden artefacts in Britain and Ireland*. for an overview of the subject.

**Mike Farley**

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