

Active Archaeology Group

Autumn and Winter Activities 2018-19



Peter Marsden | 19 August 2018

This is a listing of the BAS Active Archaeology Group's planned indoor meetings and outdoor activities between September 2018 and May 2019 – as they appear in August 2018. Other activities will undoubtedly be added at short notice – so keep an eye out for AAG circulars sent out by eMail and make sure you're signed up for our 'blog' at basaag.blogspot.co.uk

- For any queries, and if you would like to be added to the AAG eMailing list, please phone Peter Marsden on 01296 696303 or eMail pandvmarsden@yahoo.co.uk

OUTDOOR ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECTS – Autumn 2018

The former swing bridge at Whitehouses on the Wendover Arm Canal

The Canal and River Trust have asked the AAG to survey what remains of the former swing bridge near Whitehouses, the former pumping station on the Wendover Arm canal that we surveyed in 2017. The bridge's somewhat ruinous abutments are visible, but there must be heavy masonry in the canal bank to support the bridge pivot, and possibly remains of the swing mechanism itself.

A small AAG survey team is needed to clear vegetation then measure and photograph the abutments.

- If you'd like to join the Swing Bridge team, eMail Doug Stuckey at douglstuckey@aol.com.



Remains of the swing-bridge abutment today.

HS2 archaeology at Stoke Mandeville: Two chances to get involved

The archaeologists working on the site of the old church ruins and former deserted medieval village on the HS2 high-speed rail line at Stoke Mandeville are offering two chances to get involved. Trial trenching has already been done on the site, initially with Iron-Age and Roman finds.

- Come hear the archaeologists' excavation plans, background research and finds so far, and go round the site at the **Stoke Mandeville Archaeology Open Day on Sunday 9 September 2018, 12 noon to 5pm**, starting with talks and displays at Stoke Mandeville Village Community Centre, Eskdale Road, Stoke Mandeville HP22 5UJ (near the railway station) and shuttle-bus or 15-minute walk to the site.

Just go along, or phone the HS2 Helpdesk team on 08081 434434 if you need more details.

- Get involved in recording finds from the church ruins by joining the **Stoke Mandeville Archaeology Field Museum**. As the present rubble mound is removed volunteers will work alongside the archaeologists to record details of architectural masonry and other finds, learning how to do this both descriptively and by creating 3D-models. You will be able to volunteer for up to three days or go along for one-off 'pop-in' days.

Register your interest in volunteering now by eMailing hs2fieldmuseum@lparchaeology.com

Visit to the St James Gardens HS2 excavation in London

Excavation has already started at the St James Gardens former burial ground near Euston station – because it is in the way of construction of HS2's London terminal. The excavation is of particular interest because it is a precursor of the work to be done on the churchyard at the old St Mary's Church at Stoke Mandeville – so an AAG trip is planned in October or November.

- *If you're interested in a guided tour of the St James Gardens excavation, please eMail Peter Marsden at pandvmarsden@yahoo.co.uk and details will be sent to you as soon as these are known.*

Finally...

Watch the Active Archaeology Group BLOG for future activities – point your web browser at basaag.blogspot.co.uk and enter your eMail address to ensure you see future postings automatically.

EVENING MEETINGS FOR AUTUMN 2018 and WINTER 2019

- *All meetings are at the Bucks County Museum in Church Street, Aylesbury, and start at 7.30pm. Entrance is from the footpath on the side of the building that faces St Mary's Churchyard.*
- *All meetings are in three parts: a practical archaeology session or speaker on a recent excavation; a break for tea, coffee and biscuits; then reports on our current and recent archaeology projects.*

Tuesday 18 September:

Military Heritage

Speaker: Gary Marshall, National Trust Archaeologist for the South East of England

Tuesday 16 October:

Archaeology from Maps

A practical session led by Sandy Kidd of Historic England

Tuesday 20 November:

Four thousand years of lathe turning in archaeology

Speaker: Stuart King

Tuesday 18 December:

Christmas Party and AAG annual round-up

AAG members

2019:

Tuesday 15 January 2019:

Archaeology north of the Cairngorms - speaker: Doug Stuckey

Tuesday 19 February:

Experimental Archaeology - speaker: Jennifer Foster

Tuesday 19 March:

Pottering about with the Romans

A practical session on identifying Roman pottery led by Jill Evers

Tuesday 1 April:

Archaeology of timber-frames buildings

Speaker: Trevor Ottlewski

Tuesday 15 May:

Subject and speaker to be announced



The main flue from one of the twin steam-generating boilers at **Three Locks**, where the AAG excavation is now completed. Watch out for the full report.

For more information about the BAS Active Archaeology Group, eMail us at bucksasaag@gmail.com