

PDAS WINTER LECTURE SEASON

2010/2011



4th October 2010

FROM KENTS CAVERN TO CRESSWELL CRAGS: New Research into the Art & Archaeology of the Late Upper Palaeolithic

Dr Paul Pettitt

Dr Pettitt is Senior Lecturer in Palaeolithic Archaeology in the University of Sheffield. He is interested in the Neanderthal/Homo Sapiens transition and was involved in the discovery of Upper Palaeolithic art at Creswell Crags. He was also part of the team which recently carried out trial excavations within Kents Cavern to try to find modern scientifically excavated evidence for environment and dating to help in the interpretation of the material excavated by Pengelly in the 1920s. His talk will cover current thinking on the British Upper Palaeolithic.

1st November 2010

BRINGING THE PAST TO LIFE: a Personal Viewpoint

Julian Richards

Julian Richards is an archaeologist with a passion for bringing the past to life (and for Stonehenge). A graduate of Reading University, he has worked in archaeology for over 40 years, for commercial units, for English Heritage, as a teacher in Continuing Education, and in more recent years in broadcasting, in series such as 'Meet the Ancestors'. In his talk he will use his experience of programme making, experimental archaeology and reconstruction to demonstrate how the bare bones of archaeology can be made to tell their compelling stories. He will take a critical look back to the days of Mortimer Wheeler and forward to the challenges facing modern broadcasters.

6th December 2010

THE ORIGINS OF ANGLO-SAXON TOWNS: New Thoughts from the Staffordshire Campaign

Prof. Martin Carver

Prof. Carver was a freelance field archaeologist for 14 years, founding commercial companies at Birmingham and York universities. He was Professor of Archaeology in York until 2007 and is now editor of *Antiquity*. He has rescued the results of the Stafford campaign – which involved some 30 excavations over ten years – and is now bringing these to publication. During this he has developed the idea that the burhs of Mercia (and many of Wessex) were not built as towns but designed to resemble a Roman fort and its vicus. His talk will give the opportunity to hear of this work, with many details of life in Anglo-Saxon Stafford, before the book appears.

7th February 2011

THE SALCOMBE WRECKS: 3,000 Years of History from the Sea

Ron Howell & Andy Elliott

Ron Howell started diving with the Royal Navy in 1958. He joined the British Sub Aqua Club (BSAC) in 1975 and is a founder member of the South West Maritime Archaeological Group (SWMAG). Andy Elliott joined the BSAC over 25 years ago and is the SWMAG's link with the British Museum and their Research Officer. The talk will tell the story of the Group's work from the Erme Estuary days up to their present work on the important Salcombe Bronze Age site - between 1972 and 1982 a number of bronze swords, blades and palstaves were found, and in 2009 a large number of tin and copper ingots were recovered.

7th March 2011

BREAKING NEW GROUND IN THE SOUTH HAMS: Medieval Totnes & Prehistoric Dartmouth

Bryn Morris & Martin Tingle

Dr Morris and Dr Tingle are professional archaeologists who have worked recently with Southwest Archaeology. Their presentation is in two parts. Bryn will describe recent excavations on four medieval and post-medieval sites in urban Totnes. Martin's talk will cover some exciting prehistoric discoveries at Late Dartmouth Farm – a huge late Mesolithic pit and a late Neolithic midden with exotic finds suggestive of ritual consumption. The nearest parallels are the smaller Mesolithic pits in the Stonehenge car park and the middens outside the earthwork at Durrington Walls.

4th April 2011

THE NEW FRONTIER: Bronze Age to Stone Age under the Sea

Dr Nic Flemming

Dr Nic Flemming trained as a diver in the Royal Marines in the 1950s and started scientific diving at Cambridge University in 1957. He has organised and led many diving projects, mostly aimed at understanding the changes of sea level during the ice ages, and archaeological remains which are now under the sea. He is a Research Fellow at the National Oceanographic Centre at Southampton and is conducting research on Palaeolithic and Mesolithic occupation of the continental shelf. His talk will cover underwater sites around the Mediterranean ranging from the Bronze Age, through Neolithic, Mesolithic, Palaeolithic and back to about 1 million years before the present.

All the above lectures are held on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm in the Devonport Lecture Theatre of the Portland Square Building, University of Plymouth. Non-members are welcome but are asked to contribute £4 towards our expenses. Further details of the Society's activities can be found overleaf or on our web site – www.plymarchsoc.org.uk

PLYMOUTH & DISTRICT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

PLYMOUTH & DISTRICT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

c/o City Museum & Art Gallery, Drake Circus, Plymouth PL4 8AJ

Tel: 01752 304 774 www.plymarchsoc.org.uk

2010 COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Chris Ruse	Joan Price	Peter Macdermott	Bob Thomas	Elspeth Alpey
Reg Alpey	Ros Bate	Bob Bruce	Sarah Cattermole	
Di Jennings	Martin Read	Martin Tingle		

MUSEUM REPS: Fiona Pitt/Tabitha Cadbury

CITY REP: Vacant

The Plymouth & District Archaeological Society meets on the first Monday of the month throughout the year: in the summer (May - September) at local sites & in the winter in the Devonport Lecture Theatre, Portland Square Building at Plymouth University. Visitors or prospective members are most welcome to our meetings (unless they are prebooked or restricted) but are asked to make a small donation towards our costs of £4 per summer visit or winter lecture. The Society holds insurance cover but we regret that persons over 77 are excluded and participate at their own risk.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION: ORDINARY: £15; FAMILY £21; STUDENT OR UNDER 18 £10. Payment is due on the 1st October annually (cheques made payable to 'Plymouth & District Archaeological Soc') and sent (with name, address, postcode, tel. no. & email address) to: **Mr R.G.Thomas, Membership Secretary, Plymouth & District Archaeological Society, 6 The Esplanade, The Hoe, Plymouth PL1 2PJ (tel: 01752 674 291 or rghthomas057@btinternet.com).**

PRACTICAL ARCHAEOLOGY & TRAINING: The Society undertakes a limited range of practical work the nature of which tends to happen at short notice. Normally archaeological excavation would not be undertaken except when sites are under imminent threat of destruction. However some volunteers may be needed for local projects, which arise from time to time. We also do undertake some field walking & landscape surveying. Bob Bruce (01752 837 564) holds the Society Register of Volunteers. Please ensure that your name is registered with him indicating activities that interest you and if you can undertake practical work at short notice.

AGM & MEMBERS' EVENING: WEDNESDAY 19TH JANUARY 2011. Venue and programme will be notified with the formal Notice of AGM issued in December along with a bookings flyer for the Society Dinner which is held after the AGM meeting finishes.

LECTURE COURSES & SYMPOSIA:

DAS ARCHAEOLOGY LECTURE COURSE, October 2010 to March 2011.

'The Prehistory of Southwest Britain' by Dr Paul Rainbird

2 terms each of 10 weeks, Friday mornings (starting October 8th) 10am - 12 noon at the Plymouth Atheneum
Details from Prof V. Maxfield, 42 Monmouth St., Topsham, Exeter, EX3 0AJ.

EVENING COURSE AT PLYMOUTH UNIVERSITY, 8 Thursday evenings starting 14 October 2010.

'Two Iron Age Hillforts in their Landscapes - Danebury & South Cadbury'

Details from Dr Tina Tuohy, 01752 564 906 or cmftuohy@btinternet.com.

ARCHAEOLOGY NEWS AND COURSES: see Win Scutt www.archaeology.ws

PARKING: Parking is free during the evenings within the Campus but very limited. The City Centre multi-story car parks charge to midnight but some close early. The City Centre on-street parking is also chargeable to midnight but there is a 3 hour maximum. On-street parking north of the University is usually free after 6pm. **ALWAYS CHECK WHEN YOU PARK.**

For further information on our summer or winter meetings or on membership or activities please see our Newsletter or contact any of the names below or check our web site.

Any damage or threats to archaeological sites should be reported urgently to either The City Archaeologist based in the Planning Dept (01752 305 433) or the City Museum (01752 304 774). Archaeological finds should be reported to the City Museum.

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