



Maidstone Area Archaeological Group



Established 1969

On *Twitter* as *MAAGinfo* and on *Facebook*

Newsletter, May 2010

Dear Fellow Members

The Programme Card for the coming year, which is normally sent with this newsletter, will now be available with the September newsletter. Details of the forthcoming meeting dates are listed at the end of this newsletter. A summary of this year's AGM follows:

Linda

AGM Notes – Friday 23rd April 2010

The AGM was attended by 26 people.

Membership stands at 95, with 23 new members and 16 who have defaulted or resigned.

David Carder circulated copies of the accounts and said that we had made a profit but expenditure was considerably up, and interest had dropped from £123 to £30 due to low interest rates. Funds had been boosted by three major donations : Mr. Baughan - £400, Kent Archaeological Trust £200 and the Mayor's Fund £440, for hire of an excavator at East Farleigh. David had sent off an application for 4 years' worth of gift aid, which should be over £300.

After some discussion it was agreed by a vote of 14 to 3 that we did not yet need to increase subscriptions.

Email Updates - 61 members have email addresses but only 37 have replied to emails asking whether or not they would like to go on the circulation list for information and updates between meetings. If you would like to be added to the list and haven't yet replied, please let me know, because I can only add people who specifically state that they would like to receive them. You can change your mind at any time.

Albert Daniels stood down as Chairman and Richard Weeks took over. The Committee is now as follows:

Chairman : Richard Weeks

Vice-Chairman : David Ottway

Hon. Secretary : Linda Weeks

Hon. Treasurer : David Carder

Hon. Examiner : Josie Sanders

The evening concluded with a celebration, with refreshments, of the end of MAAG's 40th anniversary year, followed by a most enjoyable quiz compiled by Trevor Bent.

Albert's Archaeological Roundup

East Farleigh : The excavation recommenced on 25th April and will continue to take place on Sundays between 10am and 4.30pm probably until the end of September. Work this year is concentrating on the west end of building 3 and building 5. Thanks to a generous donation from the Mayor's Fund, we were able to hire an excavator to move the spoil heaps and remove the overburden from building 5. As a result, we now have a large area to trowel. Pottery, a coin of the Emperor Magnentius (350-353 AD) and a token have already been found.

If you'd like to come and join in but haven't been before, please contact us for directions and further information.

Open Day : East Farleigh

Our **Open Day** will be on Sunday, 1st August from 11.00am - 3.30pm to coincide with the Festival of Archaeology. If you haven't visited the site before and need directions, please contact me.

Other Events

Dover Roman Painted House : All Kent residents are cordially invited to visit the Roman Painted House, New Street, Dover, CT17 9AJ (Telephone 01304 203279) on the 24th and 25th July 2010 between 10am and 4.30pm. This special event is to celebrate 40 years (1970-2010) of archaeological excavation, publication and public presentation in Dover by the Kent Archaeological Rescue Unit.

Archaeologists who discovered the Roman House in 1970 will give site lectures at 11am and at 2.30pm. Admission charges are £3 adults and £2 concessions. There are toilets and a gift shop at the site, parking on the forecourt or in nearby public car parks. Mainline Priory Station is nearby.

Festival of British Archaeology : We have registered for this again this year and will be sent some free leaflets and posters nearer the time.

Maidstone Museum : Saturday, 5th June : Resident experts will be on hand to identify fossils brought in by visitors and children can dig for their own free fossils. As well as opportunities to talk to members of local fossil and mineral societies who will be bringing in their own material, everyone will be able to make a fossil and see the Museum's amazing dinosaur reconstructions. And it's all free! Fossil Fever starts at 10am and finishes at 4pm.

Randall Manor, Shorne Country Park : Saturday June 12th : A Finds Open Day to see what has been found over the past 4 seasons. Season 5 will run from **3rd July to 1st August**. For further details contact Andrew Mayfield on 01474 823800 or andrew.mayfield@kent.gov.uk

Future MAAG Meetings at Kent Police College : 7.30pm start

- 18th June : **Archaeological Conservation** Dana Goodburn-Brown
(if you'd like to bring any objects along, Dana will advise you on their care)
- 17th September : **Recently reported road deaths on the N6:
3500 BC to 1500 AD** Brendon Wilkins, Wessex Archaeology
- 15th October : **Woodland/Landscape Archaeology** Nicola Bannister

Future meeting dates 2010-2011

19th November (Members' Evening) : 17th December (Social) : 21st January : 18th February :
18th March : 15th April : 20th May : 17th June

Publicity

As well as our Twitter account, MAAG now has a 'Facebook' presence. If you have access to the internet and your own Facebook account, search for us as Maidstone Area Archaeological Group. The site will be updated with information about our excavation, open day, meetings, etc. but will not broadcast the exact location of the site.

A new poster and publicity leaflets for MAAG are to be produced.

Gazebo Hire

A few years ago the Group bought a hexagonal gazebo for use at displays and open days. It is available for Members to hire at £5 a time, the money to go to Group funds. Please contact me for details.

Contacts

General & Newsletter: **Linda Weeks (Hon. Secretary)**, 40 Bell Meadow, Maidstone ME15 9ND
(01622) 762422 : **email:** maag.info@virginmedia.com

Subscriptions: **David Carder (Treasurer)**, 53 The Ridgeway, Chatham ME4 6PB
(01634) 849085 (answering service) : **email:** pending

Fieldwork: **Albert Daniels (Fieldwork Director)**
(01622) 692450 or (07964) 395891 : **email:** a.daniels249@btinternet.com

Email: maag.info@virginmedia.com **Twitter:** MAAGInfo **Facebook:** Maidstone Area Archaeological Group