

## **The National Trust**

### **Bucks Historic Environment Forum 21<sup>st</sup> September 2011**

#### **Stowe New Inn**

After 20 months of building work Stowe New Inn is due to open to the public at the end of October 2011, slightly later than scheduled (originally June). Seven rooms within the historic part of the inn will be open to the public, including three of the parlours, the kitchen, brewhouse/laundry, the 'Dairy' and one of the upstairs rooms which is thought may have provided an assembly room. The rooms will be refurbished to how they might have appeared c. 1790 when a major re-fit of the inn took place, including the introduction of passages segregated from the parlours and the reconfiguration of staircases. Much of the refurbishment will be informed by archaeological evidence, particularly for decorative schemes and for the arrangement of fireplaces. Unblocking of one of the parlour fireplaces has led to the discovery of an unusual stuccoed surround to the c.1790 fireplace. The refurbished rooms will include a display of everyday but informative artefacts recovered from the inn, including the roof tile with its obscenity published in Records of Bucks. You will have to visit New Inn or read Records (2008) to find out what it said!

The report for the main phase of archaeological recording is due for completion in December with a summary article to follow in Records of Bucks for 2012.

Other Stowe projects which are gently on the 'boil' are proposals for relocating the golf course to the eastern edge of the park, thus removing it from its current location from the heart of the historic gardens and allowing for restoration of this area to its late 18<sup>th</sup> century form. The proposals are being informed by historic landscape assessments which have included an archaeological impact assessment.

#### **Cliveden**

Major excavations for installing a new sewer scheme are scheduled to commence in January of 2012. These will be the subject of an archaeological watching brief with the preferred tender to be appointed in October.