

Bucks Historic Environment Forum 16th April 2024

Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society report

The society will once again be co-ordinating the Bucks Local History Network conference to be held on Saturday October 5th in the Methodist Hall in Aylesbury. This will be the 25th year of the conference and to celebrate TV historian Ruth Goodman will present the key lecture. The theme of this year's conference is farming and agriculture in Bucks.

The BAS AGM will be held on Saturday 11th May with a keynote talk on recent developments at Grims Ditch by Lucy Lawrence. The 64th volume of Records of Buckinghamshire will be available for collection. Digitisation of old editions has now been completed with a community grant from HS2 and can be viewed on the Archaeology Data Service. The society also publishes occasional papers

Membership of the society stands at about 380 but has dropped slightly due to subscription increase to £24 and some elderly members resigning membership.

The Society maintains a regular programme of talks and outings and the Active Archaeology Group within the society also holds monthly meetings and lectures and is currently digging at two sites in Milton Keynes – the Ha-ha at Great Linford and the 18th century gardens at Stanton Low. The next meeting, on May 9th (evening) will cover the Etymology of local place names.

BAS will take part in the Aylesbury Museum's Heritage open day in July and Milton Keynes in September. The Group undertook a watching brief for the new fence installation at Quarrendon, investigating 181 auger holes. Work is planned to record a service trench at Hogshaw (Knights Hospitallers Chapel) later in the year.

The BAS website has tried to keep abreast of approved HS2 reports and lists these with relevant links.

Unfortunately the website continues to be the victim of robotic phishing affecting its sales and has therefore had to be vigilant in obstructing these and also returning monies where they have been fraudulently taken.

The society is aware of proposals affecting the Halton museum storage site and also around potential relocation of the county archives.

A publication covering the history of Notley Abbey is in preparation, with publication planned for mid 2024.