

A Quick Note from your New Secretary

I just wanted to provide an update and let you know what is happening with two projects I am working on in Southstoke and Paulton.

Southstoke

As part of my dissertation I am undertaking a 'Parish Survey of the Roman Remains in Southstoke, near Bath'. Over the last century there have been some fantastic discoveries at Southstoke, vast quantities of pottery, sarcophagus and a statue head. Rev Skinner had identified a villa site in the 1800's and this was confirmed by a small trench dug in 1965 by the Society.

The purpose of my dissertation is to determine what kind of Roman settlements were in Southstoke and where they were located, and obviously to find out as much information about them as possible.

To this end, a good number of the villagers are doing garden surveys for me, where they will put anything they find while gardening into a special bag and return it to me in six months time. A number of them with bigger gardens have also given me access to walk and do geophysics, and there are some ploughed fields in the immediate vicinity that could be walked.

Paulton Villa

As some of you will know, this site was excavated in the 1970's by the Society and part of the field walked in 1996. In January the whole field was walked – thanks to all the volunteers who have turned up to field walk and potwash over the last month. There have been some really interesting finds and I now have the monumental task of identifying, recording, plotting and publishing this information which I hope to do during this year. I will try to give regular updates in the newsletter to let you know what I have found.

Important:

If any member of the Society was involved in or remembers either excavation at Southstoke or Paulton please get in touch with me on 01225 761026, we have very little information and anything you can tell me may help in the research.

Thanks

Ceri Lambdin