

# News Views Reviews Obituaries

## **DATES FOR THE DIARY – 2010**

**Monday 31 May - Friday 9 July** Dates for the Blacklands dig 2010 directed by Bill Adams.

This is the final year of excavations at Blacklands and experienced diggers are needed in order to complete the planned work. Bill is looking for dating evidence for the transition from the Iron Age to Roman periods and will need as many experienced volunteers as possible. This is a Members only dig - booking is via Anny Northcote, contact details are on page 53.

**Saturday 17 July** Festival of British Archaeology Open Day at Upper Row Farm 10am to 4pm.

Activities for the whole family including hands-on archaeology, guided tours of the Iron Age/Romano-British site at Blacklands. *Deva Victrix Leg XX* return and this time it is serious! They will be bringing 30 sets of children's armour and an *onager*. There will also be an insight into life in the Iron Age inside the completed roundhouse by a Celtic re-enactor. Volunteers to help on the day are welcome and should contact Ceri Lambdin.

## **Monday 26 July to Friday 20 August**

Dates for the Training Excavation at Homefield directed by Robin Holley.

The cost is £135 per week non-members, £120 members. Members are welcome to volunteer at the dig, bring your own trowel or you can buy one from Anny Northcote, donations would be welcome to help cover the costs, particularly tea and biscuits! Any offers from experienced diggers to supervise the trainees would also be welcome.

**Saturday 18 September** Excavation Open Day at Upper Row Farm 10am to 4pm.

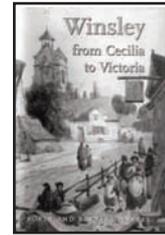
Activities for the whole family including hands-on archaeology, guided tours of the trenches to get the latest update on the first year of the Homefield Project. Plans are afoot for Medieval re-enactors, more details to follow. Volunteers to help on the day are welcome and should contact Ceri Lambdin.

## **BOOK REVIEWS**

### **Winsley from Cecilia to Victoria**

by Robin and Barbara Harvey

Published by Hobnob Press, 2007. £9.95



This intriguing book traces the history of the parish of Winsley, which adjoins Bradford on Avon, Wiltshire and extends to the Somerset border. The authors have been meticulous in their research and the result is an extremely detailed history from Saxon and medieval times through to the Victorian age, when it was first mapped in detail.

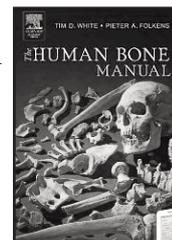
It is fascinating to learn the history of various field names, place names and buildings in the parish and how these have developed over time. For example, the name of the village of Winsley has not changed much over the years since it was first written in its latinised form 'Wineslega' around 1170. Names ending in -legh, -lega or -leah refer to clearings in woodland and are thought to date from late Saxon or Norman times. It is possible that Winsley came from Wine (pronounced Wina), a Saxon, resulting in 'Wina's Legh'.

This well written book contains a plethora of facts, photographs, maps and drawings and is an excellent model of a parish history. It is highly recommended not only to those living in the vicinity but also to those interested in local history.

Sadly, Robin Harvey passed away at the end of 2009, but this book is testimony to all the hard work Robin and his late wife, Barbara, put into researching Winsley, their home for almost forty years. **Sophie Hawke**

### **Human Bone Manual**

by Tim D. White and Pieter A Folkens. Published by Elsevier Academic Press



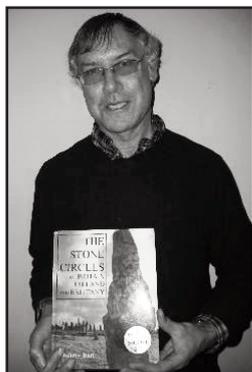
My thanks go to the Committee for presenting me with this most excellent manual. Within its pages are covered most of the problems associated with any analysis of human bones.

It is a compact paperback to carry around yet it holds a wealth of useful information. After a preliminary discussion on ethics and field procedures most of the book is on the identification of the bones and their analysis. It is liberally illustrated with photographs of all the bones from a variety of angles so that not only does it make identification easier but also helps in recognising from which side of the body it comes from, important in population studies. The teeth are extremely well documented with photographs from every angle and this makes the identification of loose teeth more accurate. However all the teeth show no wear at all, a situation rarely seen in adult skeletons.

There is a very good section on pathology again liberally illustrated showing the commoner features which might be found both on the bones and the teeth. The scientific analysis of human material has advanced so much in recent years that the very clear description of the various techniques with their advantages and difficulties is a welcome addition to any manual. The last section is on population analysis and here the criteria for ageing, sexing, stature etc. are clearly laid down with non metric traits and the effects of diet and disease on a population.

This book contains in one volume a very useful guide for anyone who is dealing with human material and I would recommend it to any aspiring osteoarchaeologist. Up to now I have not been able to use it practically but if any more skeletons turn up in Bath I will definitely be using it. **Dawn Hodgson**

#### **CLIVE PEACOCK MEMORIAL AWARD 2010**



The winner for 2010 was John Oswin, an individual who contributed a huge amount to BACAS in 2009. John was nominated for his expertise in geophysics, which has enhanced the reputation of BACAS not just in the surveys of the environs of Upper Row Farm but also with the survey of Stanton Drew stone circles that he led in July. The excellent and professional report he produced with

John Richards has been extremely well received and is a credit to the Society. John has generously assisted members with their personal projects and has spent many hours volunteering for the Educational Project, answering numerous questions from inquisitive 8 year olds. Congratulations to John, who is pictured here.

#### **COMMITTEE UPDATE**

In order to take BACAS forward into the new decade a new look Committee emerged from the 2010 AGM. I was delighted to welcome two new Committee members, Robin Holley and Kate Strugnell, and the opportunity was taken to restructure and assign new responsibilities. In addition to myself continuing as Chairman, the Committee and their responsibilities are as follows:

- **Honorary Secretary and Educational Project Monitor – Ceri Lambdin** is the point of contact for the Society and also helps run the Educational Project and manages the budget, she also organises the Open Days and is the Editor of Camertonian.
- **Honorary Treasurer and Webmaster – Garry Pratt**
- **Director of Archaeology – Robin Holley** is an experienced field archaeologist and is responsible for all of the Society's research projects ensuring that project designs are completed, permissions are received from and reports are provided to the relevant County Archaeologist. Robin will also be Director of the Homefield Project.
- **Membership Secretary – Ann Martin** who is the originator of all email communication to members.
- **Lectures & Excursions Co-ordinator – Roger Lawley** who has taken on responsibility for lectures in addition to excursions. Roger works with a sub-committee to produce and deliver the two programmes.
- **Communications Officer – Kate Strugnell** who is responsible for internal communications via the newsletter and external communications with publicity and the press.
- **Director of Education – Les Hayes** who runs the Educational Project and other outreach activities, also liaison with the Henty family.
- **Director of Operations – Owen Dicker** who is responsible for the logistical activities of the Society and procurement of materials required for the various projects. Owen is

also the nominated Conservation Officer for the small finds requiring care and conservation.

In addition to the Committee there are a number of other people reporting into the Committee/Committee Members in various roles:

**The Senior Finds Supervisor – Roger Vaughan,**  
**Excavation Booking Co-ordinator – Anny Northcote,**  
**Osteoarchaeologist – Dawn Hodgson,**  
**Director of the Blacklands Dig 2010 – Bill Adams,**  
**Geophysics Team Leader – John Oswin,**  
**Educational Officer – Tavis Walker and Director of the Blacklands Project – Jayne Lawes.**

Contact details for all the key people are on page 53. I am confident that the Society will continue to develop and expand its activities and influence, any Society or organisation has to change to reflect the changing environment in which it operates.

I am delighted that we have such an active, engaged membership and would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those members who have contributed to the Society's success over the last year in:

Geophysics - both regular and project work e.g. Stanton Drew. Excavation - organisation, supervising trainees, volunteering, using equipment. Post-excavation work - finds management, producing reports, drawing Open Days - organisation, tours, teas, activities, car parking, publicity etc. Lectures - organisation, teas, publicity, admission. Educational Project - organisation, assisting with on-site visits, preparation for visits. Excursions - organisation. Camerton - proof reading, editing, design. Roman Garden - maintenance and extension. Website - management, updating. Museum barn - work on making it usable. **Bob Whitaker**

## **OBITUARIES**

### **Ken Appleby 1928-2010**

I am saddened to report the death of Ken Appleby who was a long standing member of this Society, joining in 1992 he served on the committee for many years and for a decade organised the excursion programme.

Many members enjoyed the variety of sites and the periods covered by his excursions. A number of members who worked closely with Ken have written with their memories,

Ken made sure on his reconnaissance visits before excursions, that the nearest pub was tried out and to his satisfaction! and excursion meetings were held if possible, in some smoke filled bar with real ale. All of us who knew and worked with Ken will miss his company and the Society will be the poorer with his passing.

If you would like to make a donation in Ken's memory, the charity chosen by his family is *The Lewy Body Society* to whom cheques should be made payable. Donations can either be sent to Ann Appleby at 31 Morris Lane, Batheaston, Bath, BA1 7PR, or directly to the Lewy Body Society whose address can be obtained via their website [www.lewybody.org](http://www.lewybody.org) where Gift Aid forms can also be downloaded.



**Ken Appleby**

**Edward Thompson**

### **Edward Thompson 1939-2010**

For the second time in this edition of *Camerton*, I have to report the death of another BACAS member Edward Thompson, who died on Saturday 13th March 2010.

Edward and his wife Jackie joined the Society in 1999 and Edward was soon involved, taking an active role in excavations and helping out at open days, usually manning the car park. Edward drove hired minibuses for many of the excursions during the time that Ken Appleby organised them.

Edward had been ill for some time; we have missed both him and Jackie who were always ready to help in any way. Edward also corrected the many spelling mistakes and grammatical errors I frequently made in articles for *Camerton* and as a scholar was very critical of my feeble attempts at Latin!

Edward will be sorely missed by all those who knew him. **Bob Whitaker**