

HAMPSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL DOWSERS

Newsletter – October 2020

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At HADs virtual Committee meeting held on 23 September the following decisions were made.

Because of the continuing Covid-19 situation, and communication with our planned speakers for 2020/21 (*some of whom have had to withdraw*), it has been agreed that this season's talks etc will have to be cancelled. In addition The Hospital of St Cross is still in Lockdown and our search for alternative accommodation has mainly proved fruitless due to other communal halls still remaining closed while others have been forced to limit numbers allowed to attend and impose such conditions as to make them untenable for our use.

However, it is not all gloom and doom. We have been able to arrange speakers willing to provide a virtual talk, as below (the dates are the same as previously agreed):-

Thursday 22 October – Don Bryan – 'In the Footsteps of King Alfred (City to Hyde Abbey)'.

Thursday 26 November – Andy Skinner – 'Southampton in the 1600's: Mayflower, Civil War and the Great Plague'.

Thursday 28 January – Don Bryan – 'St Kilda – the Forgotten Island'

Thursday 26 March – Andy Skinner – 'Southampton in the Age of Spas, Springs and Highwaymen'

We are still considering what can be arranged instead of our programmed Christmas Social on Thursday 10 December and our 2021 Annual General Meeting on Thursday 25 February. Both will be virtual events. The AGM will probably be quite straightforward to present but we are giving thoughts to how to arrange a 'Virtual Party' and what events to include. Members' ideas and suggestions would be gratefully received.

There will be no charge for the above talks but I afraid you will have to provide your own tea and biscuits!

In order for members to join in Don's and Andy's virtual talks you will have to download the free Zoom app on to your appropriate device. On the day of each talk you will be sent the link for you to join in the presentations.

We look forward to welcoming you to Don's first talk on 22 October.

In addition to the above, Don has offered to run an online eight week 'History of Winchester' course to HADs members and friends, commencing on Tuesday 20 October, between 7.00pm and 9.00pm. This is not a HADs activity but participants will be asked for a donation to HADs towards the cost of our Zoom licence fee and to cover Andy Skinner's fees/expenses (Southampton City Council) in respect of his two talks. Don has written separately to members and others about this course.

Paul (Herbert), Chairman, HADs

4 October 2020