

## HADS FIELD WORK

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2012

For various reasons only a small band of members turned up at Shedfield on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June to trace the Winchester Roman road from The Wheatsheaf towards Wickham. The “agger” of the route is clearly visible from the pub car-park as these photographs show.



*The Winchester road near The Wheatsheaf*

Wickham will be the target of our research programme over the next few months as the Roman road system is quite complicated with routes converging from Winchester, Bitterne, Chichester, Portchester and what appears to be a route south to Fareham. Owing to commitments at the weekends a lot of this research will be completed on the Thursday sessions. Of course I realise that many members are not able to attend these sessions but they will be kept up to date with our research programme.

Around the area of Coldharbour Farm, numerous Roman artefacts have been discovered by metal detectorists and I am making enquiries if it will be possible to field-walk this area, once the crops are off the field, looking for any possible Roman buildings in the area. If permission is granted then this would be a weekend event hopefully involving all members.

We managed to trace the route across Fordlands Farm and through (with difficulty) Redhill Copse where it crosses a stream. The route then heads towards Park Place passing through Coldharbour Farm land, the area of greatest interest to us.



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*Roman Road route to Wickham from Winchester*



*On the Roman road at Fordlands Farm*

Our research programme continues Thursday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, when we shall be meeting outside The Kings Head in Wickham Square at 10.00 from where we hope to continue tracing the Winchester route in the grounds of Park Place towards the ford at Wickham. If you would like to join us after lunch then do please let me know.

Our next all day event is on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> July when we visit St Aldhelm's Head. Details have already been circulated about this event but just to confirm with you again that we shall be meeting at the National Trust car-park, Worth Matravers, Dorset. Lunch will taken early in the Square and Compass before we walk to the chapel site. Please try and car-share wherever possible. I am taking Carol, Alan, Pradip and Ed so I have one spare place.

Kind regards to all.

Don