

HADS “THE GREAT DIVIDE” PART ONE

On the 1st December 2011, several members of HADS turned up at the Lakeside Country Park, Southampton Road at Eastleigh to determine where the two roads from *Clausentum* converged.

We were delighted to welcome back Stephanie and even more delighted to welcome our youngest member, baby Jacques.



Stephanie & Jacques, our youngest dowser!

After our coffee and natter we walked a short distance to a known section of the Roman road which runs on the eastern side of Monk's Brook behind the Concorde Club in Stoneham Lane. Members were able to locate quite easily the remains of this route as it crossed Doncaster Drove, an ancient pathway once used as a drove road.

This section of the Roman road from Winchester to Bitterne is well documented and appears on some of the older maps of the area.



Members on the Roman road at Lakeside



Best of friends!



Roman "agger" at Doncaster Drove

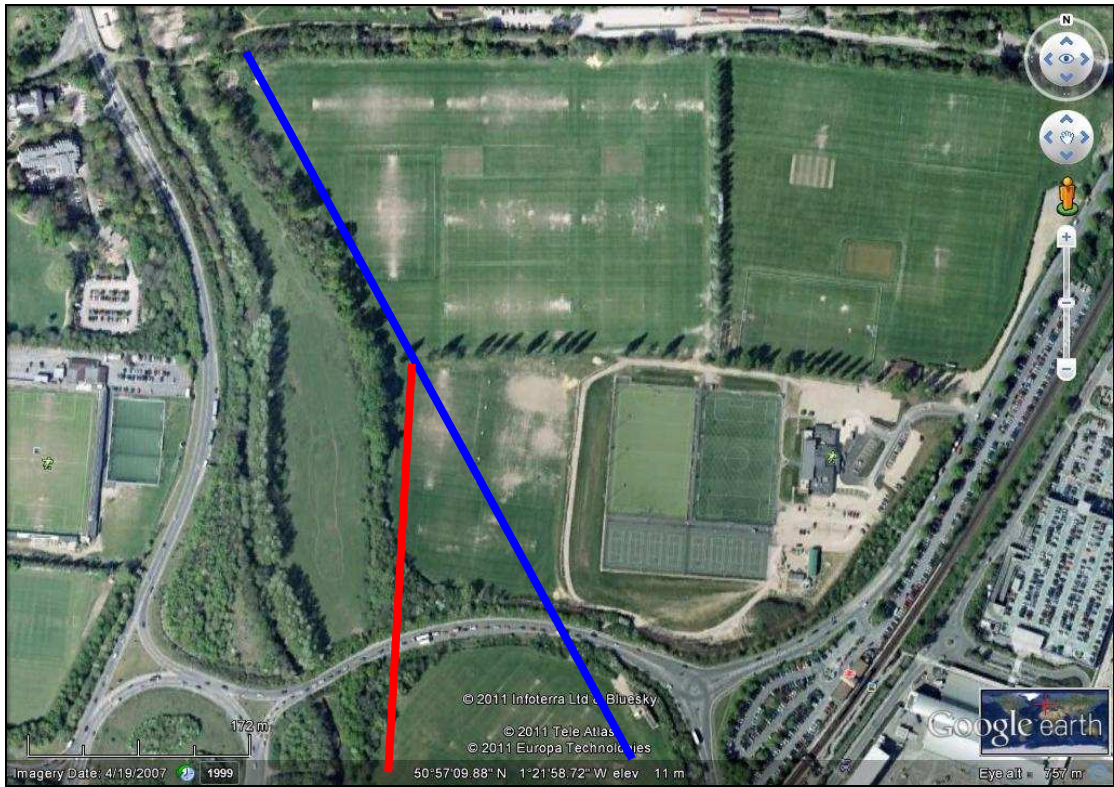


Route of road through the UOS Playing Fields

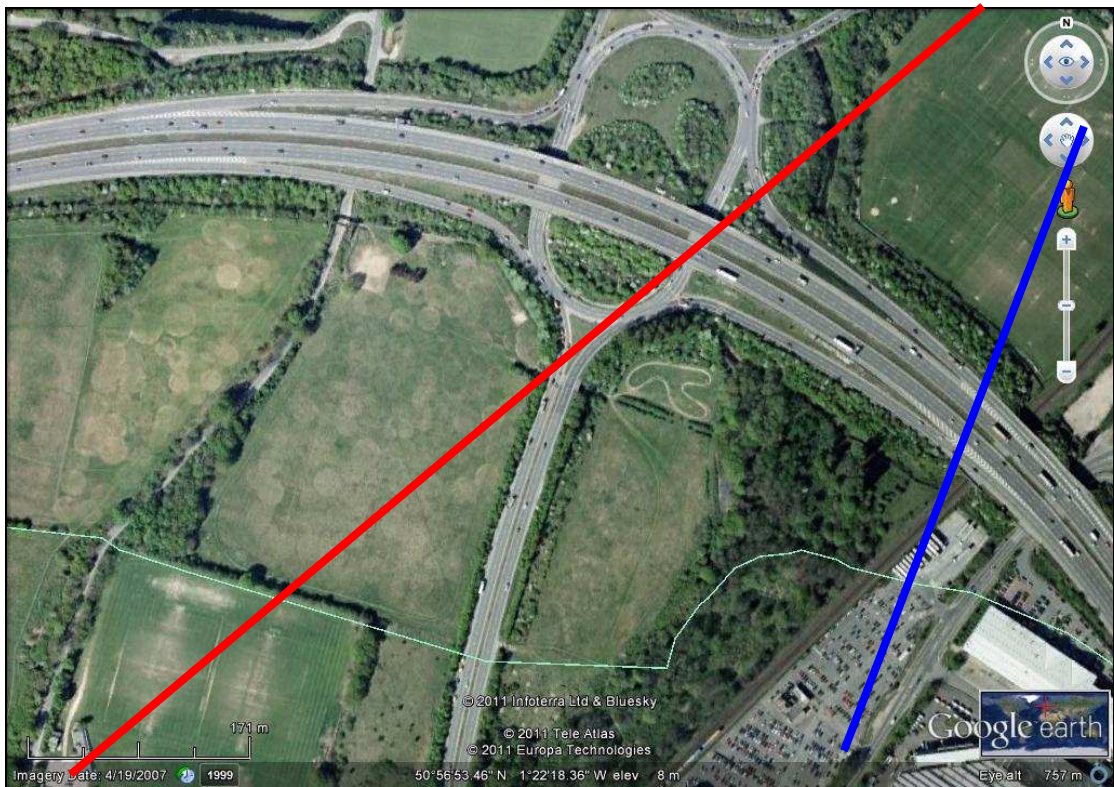


Location of junction of the two roads.

Red route heads towards Portswood whilst the blue route heads towards Mansbridge



Google plan of junction



The two routes under the M 27

After lunch, just a few members carried on with the survey towards Portswood and it was discovered that the route crossed over Stoneham Lane just before Channels Farm road.



Crossing point of Stoneham Lane just before Channels Farm Road

As the rain started to fall quite heavily the project ended for the day - we had achieved our target and had discovered where the two routes met.

This route is almost now completed, it just needs a few hours of survey to trace the red route from Portswood to St Deny's and then I can start the report.

I would wish to thank all those members who gave up their time that Thursday and I realise that several members were unable to assist due to work commitments.