



## **Southampton Archaeology Society** **Lecture Programme 2020**

We meet usually on the second Tuesday of each month between September and April, at St Joseph's Hall, Bugle Street SO14 2AH, 7.30 – 9.00pm (tea and coffee from 7.00pm). Lectures are free to members and £3 to visitors – bring your friends! Please join us after the lecture at the Duke of Wellington pub in Bugle Street.

### **11 February 2020**

#### **Mary Harris – Anglo-Saxon Charters of the Lower Test Valley.**

Within what we call the Lower Test valley there are several charters issued in Saxon times which include a description of their boundaries, such as Slackstead, Ampfield, Michelmersh, Romsey and Nursling. Our first intention was simply to try and identify these boundaries and then to see whether the Saxon description could tell us anything about the landscape and land use at the time. We used old maps and records, LiDAR, and the landscape to try to identify boundary markers and looked carefully at the actual wording of the charters. The result of all this is that we feel we can suggest most of the lines of the boundaries in Saxon times. In addition, this work resulted in a number of other 'revelations', some we are sure of and some merely possibilities, but much food for thought.

Mary Harris writes: "I studied Medieval History at York University and went on to Durham to do a postgraduate diploma in Anglo-Saxon archaeology. I then became a teacher and spent most of my career reluctantly teaching modern history until the last couple of decades when I branched out into Classics and Classical archaeology. However, I have always been interested in archaeology and local history, doing research in Durham, Somerset and Hampshire. I have been a member of Southampton Archaeology Society during all the time I lived in Hampshire and of Romsey Local History Society (LTVAS) in the 1970s and again since 1990. I am now chairman of Romsey Local History Society and have been very involved over the last 5 years on our Anglo-Saxon project."

### **10 March 2020**

#### **Roger Leech – Archaeology on the Maps of the Ordnance Survey.**

The talk will discuss the history of the depiction of archaeological sites or 'antiquities' on the maps of Great Britain, the improvements made under OGS Crawford and then CW Phillips, and the production of specialist or period maps. The changes made by the Royal Commissions for England, Scotland and Wales will be reviewed, and the speaker's involvement in computerising the card index of archaeological sites and antiquities, now available online for England on the English Heritage website as PastScape (which you are invited to sample in advance of the talk). He will conclude by looking at the legacy of these long lasting archaeological efforts.

Roger Leech is Visiting Professor of Archaeology at the University of Southampton, and formerly Head of the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments of England (RCHME) office at the Ordnance Survey.

### **14 April 2020**

#### **Karen Wardley – If Walls Could Talk: recent discoveries from the Hampshire Medieval Graffiti project.**

Interest and appreciation of historical graffiti is growing both nationally and internationally. These enigmatic marks, previously overlooked and ignored by archaeologists and historians, are now being studied in depth and providing many new insights into the past. The Hampshire Medieval Graffiti Project continues to gain momentum, recording and interpreting these finds across the county. Our remit has expanded to cover not just churches but other historical buildings, and our discoveries are revealing a fascinating range of stories previously untold. This talk will demonstrate the range of our findings, including those made by the Southampton Archaeology Society graffiti team.

Karen Wardley was Southampton City Council's Arts and Heritage Collections Manager for many years. Karen is now the co-ordinator of the Hampshire Medieval Graffiti Project.

### **12 May 2020**

#### **SAS Annual General Meeting**

Andy Russel will talk on recent work by the Southampton Archaeology Unit.

### **27 June 2020**

**Study Day: Southampton and Hampshire in the time of the Mayflower 1620.** In association with Mayflower 400.