



SPRING 2013

A SUMMER OF ARCHAEOLOGY

With excavation starting at the National Herb Centre on June 1st and our fourth year of involvement with the Festival of British Archaeology, this season is shaping up to be our busiest yet.

With two qualified archaeologists at the helm, and the addition of experienced workers from the Feldon Society, we should be able to get our clearest picture yet of the historic context of this site. And with the generous donation of a caravan by Karin Castle, there will now be a dry shelter for finds processing (and tea breaks!) to be done in tandem with the excavation.

Lead archaeologist David Freke explained: "We will continue the exploration of the Roman farm buildings we have been uncovering since 2008, and to get to the bottom of the 'temple' site, literally, to find out what is in the large pit beneath the wall of the Roman building. We will also open a new trench nearby to investigate the large bank and ditch revealed in David Sabin's 2012 geophysical survey – prehistoric? Roman? Saxon? Watch this space! And hope for better weather than last year."

And on Sunday, July 21st, the Heritage Group will welcome in the public to an archaeology open day at the National Herb Centre. Featuring a timeline of exhibits from the wider local area, this will display finds and artefacts from the earliest inhabitants through to the present day. It will also highlight the fantastic work being done by other local groups and individuals to keep our local history alive.

If you would like to be involved with the archaeology or helping out with the open day we would love to hear from you. Please contact Liz Newman on 01295 690641 or by email on alecnewman@btinternet.com



VISIT TO SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR

The WHG walk and talk will be to Shipston-on-Stour on Monday, June 10th, meeting at the fascinating museum on Telegraph Street at 6.30pm. The evening will include a tour of the museum, a walk around Shipston and finish in a local hostelry.

This ancient market town, which was part of Worcestershire until the 20th century, was first recorded in c770 and was long a possession of Worcester Priory. Shipston's name references the sheep washing on the Stour.



CAVE CANEM!

When is a cat not a cat? When it's a small dog instead. Archaeologist David Freke believes the beautifully intact small skeleton, excavated from the Herb Centre site, is cat size but definitely a dog. And while it is too small to have been a guard dog, we know the Romans were the first to keep ones this size as pets. An intriguing thought.....

Contact Details

If you would like to submit an article for the newsletter, or if you think there is something we've missed out please contact Liz and Harriet Newman by phone on 01295 690641 or by email on alecnewman@btinternet.com

Dates for your diary:

Change of Date

The trip to Evesham has been moved to **Saturday 17th August** - this will allow those with involvement in the local Fairport Convention Festival to attend both.

June 10th - village walk and talk (see article below.)

Wall paintings with Roger Rosewell - there will be two opportunities to hear Roger talk in June. The first is on the 7th at Hornton Historical Society and secondly at Burton Dassett Church between 2pm and 5pm on Sunday 16th of June. Home made cakes and teas will be served!

There are still some places left for the day school on Monday, 24th June at Warwick Record Office. Run by Dr John Hunt and David Freke, the 'Temples, Shrines and Churches' talk will present a picture of Warwickshire before the Reformation. Advance booking essential on 01926 738959.

Finally don't forget our website: warmingtonheritage.com