



# B&DAS NEWSLETTER

[www.bridgwaterarchaeology.org.uk](http://www.bridgwaterarchaeology.org.uk)

## October 2017

Dear Member

On June 15<sup>th</sup> Richard Brunning described his recent excavations at Beckery Chapel near Glastonbury. As usual Richard gave us an excellent presentation. Beckery may be an even earlier Christian foundation than Glastonbury Abbey itself.

Our annual dinner in July took place at the Bower Inn and was well attended but not all members were totally happy with the service they received.

In September we went by mini bus to visit Wells. In the morning we toured the Vicars Close, the Liberty and the area around the Bishop's Palace. In the afternoon we visited the Bishop's Palace gardens and the Palace itself. Both our guides were very informative. Many thanks to Paul and to our driver, Jeff, for a most enjoyable day.

Before continuing with our future programme I have the sad duty to report the deaths of three of our former members:

Sylvia Walker, who had been a member for over thirty years, died on 26<sup>th</sup> August. Her ashes, together with those of her husband, are to be deposited in a recently built Long Barrow at All Cannings. She made the urns herself.

John Allen died on 5<sup>th</sup> August; Chis Sidaway and I attended his funeral at Bridgwater crematorium. He had recently rejoined the society and was attending our meetings but was chiefly known as the doyen of Bridgwater Arts Centre. He was its Chairman for many years having been involved since its foundation in 1946. He was a mine of information about Bridgwater and Wembdon where he lived most of his life.

Sheila Stead died early in September in Northumberland after suffering from dementia. A past member, she attended several BDAS residential holidays and was well known to those who also attended them. This information was passed on to me by Jennifer May who had kept in touch with her.

David Baker.

# FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

2017

October 19<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm at Blake Museum

David Dawson Bridgwater and the Pottery Trade.

David is the leading expert on Bridgwater pottery.

November 16<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm at Blake Museum

David Sebborn Andrew Pascal and the Battle of Sedgemoor

This will be a dramatic, illustrated presentation

December 14<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm at Wembdon Parish Centre

BDAS Christmas Party with a speaker from Somerset Heritage Trust

At the old school building near the church. Please bring refreshments

2018

January 18<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm at Blake Museum

David Baker & Chris Sidaway - Pictures and Stories of BDAS Past Events

Please bring any memories or memorabilia you wish to share

February 15<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm at Blake Museum

A.G.M.

Afterwards Stuart Richards will talk about the Mill Project

March 15<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm at Blake Museum

John Page The Saxon Palaces at Cheddar

Royal Halls (?) excavated by Philip Rahtz in 1979