



## Winter Programme 2015/16

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2015:**

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

*followed by*

#### ***The Place-Names of Shropshire***

**Dr John Baker**

John is a senior research fellow at the Institute for Name-Studies, Nottingham University. Since January 2013 he has been working on ***The Place-Names of Shropshire***, a four-year project funded by the AHRC and this will complete the English Place-Name Society survey of Shropshire, begun by the late Margaret Gelling in the 1960s, with the publication of the final four volumes.

**2.00pm, The Shirehall, Shrewsbury.**

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2015:**

#### ***Weather extremes in Shropshire: a historical perspective***

**Dr James Bowen,**

James is a research fellow in the Department of Geography and Planning at the University of Liverpool. He will talk about the impact of extreme weather events with a Shropshire focus e.g. River Severn flooding; the Buildwas earthquake of 1773.

**2.30pm, The Shirehall, Shrewsbury.**

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2015:**

#### ***Designer Landscapes of the Middle Ages: Parks, Gardens and Designed Landscapes of Medieval North Wales and North West Shropshire***

**Spencer G Smith**

This lecture is a development of one previously presented to the SAHS, and represents the culmination of the author's research for his PhD thesis. It develops previous themes and also presents evidence for the sheer diversity of medieval landscapes within the study area and the range of sources available to reconstruct them. Spencer Gavin Smith is a Project Officer with the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust and a former Investigator with the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales. He is currently completing his PhD thesis part time at Manchester Metropolitan University.

**2.30pm, The Shirehall, Shrewsbury.**

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2015:**

#### **Social Event at the Flax Mill Maltings Visitor Centre, Shrewsbury**

An opportunity to see and enjoy the Friends of the Flaxmill Maltings' newly opened facilities. Thanks to a grant from the ERDF, the South Silo has been demolished, landscaping works carried out, and the Office and Blacksmith's Shop and the Stables have been refurbished and fitted out with a range of displays and resources for visitors.

**Cost £3 on the day to cover refreshments. Please confirm attendance at least a week in advance** to Penny Ward 01743 252558 (work) 01743 246547 (home) [penelopeward205@btinternet.com](mailto:penelopeward205@btinternet.com)

The **Car Park** for the site is on **Spring Gardens**, adjacent to **Flaxivity**, the former Salop Glass Building. SY1 2SY. **Please advise Penny Ward in advance if you need disabled access.**

**2.30 pm The Flax Mill Maltings, Shrewsbury**

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> Jan 2016:**

#### ***Dwelling in Neolithic Orkney:***

***the domestic architecture of the 4th and 3rd millennium BC  
and the implications of new discoveries.***

**Giles Carey**

The archaeology of Orkney is justifiably envied across Britain – the image of the henges and stone circles at Brodgar and Stenness or the midden-encased settlement at Skara Brae have long captivated the imagination of locals and visitors alike. While these substantial remains form a focus for archaeological attention, it has in effect, sidelined attention away from the diversity of settlement and ritual practice happening across the archipelago in the Neolithic. This talk will draw upon a number of recent discoveries with which the speaker has been involved, to explore this diverse settlement record and how it sets the scene for later Neolithic occupation. Giles Carey is currently Archaeological Technician, for Shropshire Council, dealing mainly with the Historic Environment Record.

**2.30pm, The Shirehall, Shrewsbury.**

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> Feb 2016:**

#### ***LiDAR—the landscape in a different light***

**Professor Stewart Ainsworth**

LiDAR, Light Detection and Ranging, is a remote sensing technology that uses a pulsed laser beam to measure ranges (variable distances) to the Earth. It provides highly detailed and accurate models of the land surface and provides archaeologists with the capability to recognise and record otherwise hard to detect features. Professor Stewart Ainsworth of the University of Chester will be exploring how LiDAR can unlock secrets in the landscape, with particular reference to the Stiperstones and Corndon Hills area.

**2.30pm, The Shirehall, Shrewsbury.**

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2016**

#### ***Living with Water: Past, Present, Future:***

***Medieval water management on the Severn and elsewhere.***

**Dr Richard Jones**

Early medieval place-names contain a wealth of environmental information, much of it designed to signal the local presence, characteristics and behaviour of water. Taking a landscape archaeological approach and drawing on the Traditional Ecological Knowledge paradigm, this paper explores what these names tell us about water consciousness in the past. How did people understand water? What measures were taken to control water? In short, how did people live successfully at the water's edge? The paper then asks whether these names can now be marshalled to address the contemporary issue of flooding after a millennium of redundancy. Dr Richard Jones is Senior Lecturer in Landscape History in the Centre for English Local History at the University of Leicester.

**2.30pm, The Shirehall, Shrewsbury.**

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2016**

#### ***Battlefield archaeology***

**Dr Glen Foard**

Over the last two decades battlefield archaeology has become a recognised area of research in the UK and, more recently, across Europe. Using major studies like Bosworth (1485), Edgehill (1642), Pinkie (1547) and Oudenaarde (1708), but also considering some local sites like Moreton Corbett and Mortimer's Cross, the lecture will explore the methods used and how they can advance understanding of individual events and of warfare more generally. Dr Glenn Foard is Reader in Battlefield Archaeology at the University of Huddersfield.

**2.30pm, The Shirehall, Shrewsbury.**