

Anyone wishing to send contributions to the Newsletter should send copy to 3 Luther Terrace, Oxford (Tel: 43888) before the last Tuesday in each month.

Survey

Towns Survey. Hilary Turner has begun the documentary work of the small towns survey and the production of base maps is under way. Kirsty Rodwell will be compiling the archaeological section. The Survey is scheduled to go to press at the end of this year for publication in 1975 - European Architectural Heritage Year.

Excavations

Abingdon: Ashville Trading Estate. The Abingdon and District Archaeological Society are continuing to work on this site with Mike Parrington's assistance. Sunday volunteers are urgently required and they should contact John Carter at Abingdon 1102. The Unit has undertaken to mechanically strip an area around the initial trial trenches.

Banbury: Castle. Kirsty Rodwell has continued to watch the mechanical clearance of this site. The dig has reached a depth of up to 3m. and it has uncovered the west side of the outer ditch and two circuits of defence. The later circuit had two round towers and a possible external bank. Inside the curtain wall there was 1m. of make-up but no sign of interior buildings. The most notable find has been a cannon.

Hanwell: Charlie Chambers' excavations have continued. Part of a circular 'pen' and a substantial stone building have been cleared.

Mongewell: Grin's Ditch. An open day on the site, held to mark the completion of the excavations, attracted over 1,000 people and £25 was collected in donations.

Wallingford: New Road. Tom Hassall has been assisting the Wallingford and District Archaeological and Historical Society with its training excavation on the site of one of Wallingford's medieval churches.

Observations/Miscellaneous Sites

Chinnor: Cement works. Part of a skeleton has been uncovered. The site has been visited by Tom Hassall but no other features are visible.

Ditchley: A barn has been built over the bank and ditch, but it was too late to carry out any archaeological work.

Dorchester: Bishop's Court. Ameys are continuing to extract gravel on this site which has produced Saxon and earlier features. The owner of the site (not A.R.C.) has refused permission for an excavation.

Drayton: Mike Parrington has examined a barrow which is being ploughed. The site might be a possible candidate for the Ploughing Survey.

Farmoor: New reservoir. John Hinchliffe has watched the site with Mike Hall of the Thames Water Authority. Scraping by machine has shown ditches and a stone-lined water hole, producing Roman material. The O.U.A.S. with George Lanbrick will begin excavations on July 1st.

Future Excavations

Stanton Harcourt: Negotiations are in hand for an excavation of the field system east of the Devil's Quoits. It is hoped to work on the site between July and August.

Publication

Appleford: John Hinchliffe is working on a type fabric series of Iron Age pottery. Mark Robinson has now identified 50 species of beetles from the second water hole.

Other Item of News

Night Dutch visitors from Leiden were in Oxfordshire during Easter Week. A full programme of events and social occasions was organised. It is hoped that a party from Oxfordshire will be able to go to Leiden next year.

Calendar for May and June

26th May	Oxford Carnival, Blackbird Leys 2.00 - 3.30.
27th May	Martin Biddle, 'The beginning of Anglo-Saxon Wessex'. O.U.A.S. 8.15 p.m.
28th May	Helen Keeley 'Soils for the Archaeologist' 5.00 p.m. Rewley House, Wellington Square. Admission 20p.
28th May	Crispin Payne 'Museum in the making: the new Oxford City Museum'. Cherwell School lecture.
30th May	Catherine Johns, 'The Arretine and Samian Pottery Industries'. O.U.A.S. 8.15 p.m.
3rd June	Professor Charles Thomas, 'The art of the Picts', O.U.A.S. 8.15 p.m.
5th June	O.A.H.S. A.G.M., 8.15 p.m. at Ashmolean. Professor B.J. Marples will talk on Saxon Crosses.
6th June	South Oxfordshire Advisory Committee.
10th June	James Mellaart, 'Problems of Anatolian Chronology in the light of Radiocarbon Calibration'. O.U.A.S. 8.15 p.m.
13th June	Abingdon Excavation Committee Meeting.
17th June	O.A.S. Management Committee Meeting.
25 th June	Trevor Saxby, 'The Talayotic Culture of the Balearic Islands', O.U.A.S. 8.15 p.m.
30th June	Richard Bradley on Hints, Rewley House, 5 p.m. Oxfordshire Parish Survey. 2.30 p.m. Rewley House.