Guernsey Museum Archaeology Group

Newsletter, January 2008

Happy New Year! (I know, it's nearly February, but especially to those of you I haven't seen yet this year...). Here's a quick update on what's going on at the moment.

Port Soif flint

Many thanks to Dave for organizing the first session examining the flint from this site, held in the store last Saturday. It went very well. Although Dave had planned to hold the next processing session on this coming Saturday (26 January), we have decided that it would be worth revisiting the Port Soif site, so that we can collect more flint to work on. We will also take the opportunity to have a wander around this area and examine some of the other archaeological sites in the vicinity. So if you have an hour or two to spare on Saturday 26th, please come along to the carpark on the west side of Port Soif (Perry's Guide p. 8 B1), from 1.30pm. I'll supply finds bags for the flint.

The next flint processing session will therefore take place in the store a week later, on Saturday 2 February, from 2pm.

Vale Church

A small amount of excavation has started in the field immediately south of Vale Church, where a new Sunday School is being built. At the moment this basically consists of digging a small test-pit on behalf of the architect/engineer, to check the stability of a couple of walls. At a later stage there should be a slightly larger area available for excavation, and when that happens I will contact you with dates when there will be work taking place on the site.

Herm

Professor Chris Scarre, of the University of Durham, has received a large funding award to carry out research on Herm in 2008-09. Some of you will have already met Chris on Jethou last summer. There should be some opportunities for local involvement again and I will keep you informed of how Chris's plans develop.

Store

The sessions on Wednesday morning and Thursday after work (5 - 7.30pm) are proving to be very successful and will continue at these times. In the past couple of months more than 1200 of the antiquarian objects have been photographed, we have a much clearer idea of what's in those boxes (and what's missing), and Tanya has added a great deal of information to the SMR. All in all this is proving to be an extremely valuable exercise, and I'm very grateful to everybody who has taken part so far.

That's all! Hope to see you at Port Soif on Saturday.

Phil