

CBA EAST WEBSITE: <https://cbae.archaeologyuk.org/>

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CBA EAST NEWS

CBA East Summer Events

Booking for our **two Peterborough Tours on Tuesday 17th June** is now open.
Last date for booking is Monday 9th June.

The first is a private tour of Peterborough Cathedral, commencing at 11.00 am. Lasting about 90 mins, the cost is £10 per head. Up to 40 places are available.

Explore the key features of the building's history and architecture with a knowledgeable guide. Peterborough Abbey, which became a Cathedral in 1541, has been at the centre of national and international events for over 900 years. Come and hear its stories of a medieval monastery and of a royal burial place, of major damage during the Civil War and of how it enjoyed a period of restoration and rediscovery of its Anglo-Saxon origins in the 19th century.

The second is a **private tour** of the **Priestgate Vaults** at Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery, at 2.30 pm. This tour is limited to 15 people, and costs **£5** per head. In the vaults below the museum, you will be taken through 500 years of changing hands and uses, from the grand home of a wealthy Tudor family, to the city's first infirmary. Not all tales are for the faint of heart however, as this is one of Peterborough's most haunted buildings. Please note: The Priestgate Vaults are accessed via a steep set of stairs and are inaccessible to wheelchair users. Projections, flashing lights and loud noises are used during the tour.

Each member may bring one non-member. For a booking form, please email to cbaeast@archaeologyuk.org. A booking form will be emailed back together with payment details, for you to complete. Payment must accompany the return of the completed form to confirm booking.

Saturday 14th June at 10am. CBA East AGM online starting at 10.00 am, followed by a talk by Dr James Wright on 'Historic Building Mythbusting in the Eastern Counties'. Members should have received the AGM papers by email. Member Societies may have one member attending and voting.

Tuesday 1st July: Alpheton / Bridge Street Roman Estate Complex Excavation Tour. A substantial complex ranging over 10 acres near the Nucleated Roman Settlement of Long Melford dating from the Iron Age. As part of the UCL summer student training under Dr Stuart Brookes three open areas of excavation will expose a Bath House and other features

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possibly prehistoric. The site tour will follow a comprehensive introduction including previous finds etc. The tour is arranged on a first come – first served basis and maybe limited numbers. The site is generally flat with only slight inclines and could be wheelchair friendly depending on weather. However possible parking restrictions and accessibility make it necessary to meet in Long Melford at 10.30am. Please register: cbaeast@archaeologyuk.org

Thursday 24th July at 10am. Visit to a medieval moated site in Fulbourn, Cambs. Meet at the entrance to Fulbourn Fen Nature Reserve on Stonebridge Lane, Fulbourn. For further information and to book your place please contact walk leader Aileen Connor by email cbaeast@archaeologyuk.org. Aileen will lead a walk to look at Hall Orchard Medieval Moat which was subject to excavation in the early 2000s. The walk is approximately 1 mile allowing 1 to 1½ hours to complete. Free parking in Fulbourn, please note that access is across rough ground. Hall Orchard Moat is the site of a medieval manor house, one of five known to have existed in Fulbourn. Aileen directed excavations on the house platform in the centre of the moat and will explain the history of the site and what was found there.

Thursday 31st July at 10am. Visit to Fleam Dyke, Fulbourn, Cambs. Meet at the entrance to Fulbourn Fen Nature Reserve on Stonebridge Lane, Fulbourn. For further information and to book your place please contact walk leader Aileen Connor by email cbaeast@archaeologyuk.org. Aileen will lead a walk to the impressive bank and ditch earthwork of Fleam Dyke, a Scheduled Monument thought to be Anglo-Saxon in date. The circular walk is approximately 2½ miles allowing approximately 2 hours to complete. The Dyke is one of four that effectively cross the route of the Icknield way running from heavily wooded higher ground in the south-east to low lying Fen in the north-west. Aileen will talk about the Earthwork, the historical context and what is known about it from past excavations.

Sunday 3rd August 2pm: The archaeology of Giant's Hill Rampton, Cambs guided tour by Stephen Macaulay (Oxford Archaeology). The monument includes a motte castle which overlies part of an earlier medieval settlement with associated field system. Booking details TBC

Mid-August: A tour of the excavations at Norton, Suffolk. Awaiting details (including date) from the excavators. TBC

Late August (Date TBC) Tour of Caistor Roman Walled Town and adjacent excavation. Details TBC

October (Date TBC): Tour of the WW2 archaeology around Bures on the Suffolk/Essex border. TBC

November Conference. Provisional date 1st-2nd November.

Updates and extra events (we often receive little notice of, for example, excavation tours) will be notified by email.

Our Secretary and Treasurer intend to stand down at the AGM. We urgently need nominations/volunteers for these positions Please contact cbaeast@archaeologyuk.org if you are able to help.

Your Committee:

Aileen Connor, Chair
 Geoff Lunn, Treasurer
 Louise Harrison, Secretary
 David Gordon, Membership Secretary and Newsletter
 George Ellison, YAC Liaison Officer
 Alasdair Harrison, Social Media Secretary
 Mike Pinner, Norfolk Rep
 Andy Instone, Herts Rep
 Mark Curteis, Essex Rep
 Kenneth Dodd, General Member

To contact the Committee: cbaeast@archaeologyuk.org

Visit Report: Bulmer Brick & Tile Co 2nd May 2025

On a lovely spring day, a group of CBA East members arrived at Bulmer Brick & Tile Co Ltd, in Bulmer Tye, for a tour of these venerable brick making works. They are situated in rural Suffolk and trees and greenery are everywhere. We were met by Tonia, who led us to tea & coffee, before introducing us to the owners Peter and Tony Minter. Tony then led us around the site, commencing at the metres-deep face of their own clay. Bulmer bricks are made from the finest London Clays, dug almost continually since Tudor times. Their bricks are hand-made, using traditional methods.

We watched an experienced brick maker throw a lump of sanded clay into a wooden, handmade mould, cut off the excess and lay the filled mould on a long wooden barrow. The bricks are left to shrink away from the sides before being turned out into rows for further drying and shrinking. Although the bricks have cover above them, the sides are open to the air, so drying can be affected by the weather.

From there we went to see the kiln (one of two) currently in operation. It is a down-draught brick kiln with seven fires around the outside to heat it, the heat drawn up to the domed roof and down through the bricks to escape through the floor. It reaches about 1200 degrees centigrade. We were allowed to look straight into one of the very bright coal fires. The experienced staff can tell the heat by the colour of the fire. Astonishingly, a healthy tree grows right next to this kiln.

From the kiln we moved to the cutting shed where we could watch bricks being cut in the traditional way by using a wire, following a template, to produce curves and ridges. This is labour intensive work to produce the right design, although machines are also available for simpler cutting to size.

We were impressed by the very high level of skill required at every stage to make the bricks. Used mostly for repairs and restorations, they have to match in colour and style as well as being the right size, and much time is spent in experimentation to get the right recipe before the brick making starts in earnest. The Bulmer Brick Co no longer make generic bricks; everything is specialised, making over one hundred and fifty different kinds of bricks in a year with a range of over 5000 special shapes. This was a fascinating glimpse into a very old but resilient technology, carefully and passionately preserved by generations of the Minter family. We thank them for their generosity and courtesy in showing us round.

Louise Harrison



Making the bricks by hand (Photo. Louise Harrison)

CBA NATIONAL NEWS

Saturday 19th July to Sunday 3rd August Festival of Archaeology. This annual Festival organised by the [Council for British Archaeology](https://www.councilforbritisharchaeology.org/) includes hundreds of events across the country. To find an event near you go to [Festival Council for British Archaeology \(archaeologyuk.org\)](https://www.festivalcouncilforbritisharchaeology.org/)

24 July, 7.00 pm. Bronze, beer and boats: Bringing Prehistoric archaeology to life at Stanwick Lakes with James Dilley, Nadia Norman, and Aiden Phillips
Online via Zoom. This event is free to attend.

Full details at [This is Archaeology - Bronze, beer and boats: Bringing Prehistoric archaeology to life at Stanwick Lakes Council for British Archaeology](https://www.stanwicklakescouncilforbritisharchaeology.org/)

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PUBLICATIONS

Wendling Beck and Fransham, Norfolk: Aerial Investigation and Mapping Project

Author(s): Jack Powell, Sophie Tremlett.

The project used a wide range of aerial sources to investigate the project area and identify, map, record, interpret and analyse visible archaeological features and sites. It also incorporated a 'citizen science' project, which trained and equipped volunteers to update the record for the northern half of the Wendling Beck nature recovery area and its environs using Google Earth and Environment Agency lidar data. The project was highly successful, recording significant numbers of new and previously recorded archaeological sites, potentially ranging in date from the Neolithic to the Second World War. The full report can be downloaded from [Wendling Beck and Fransham, Norfolk](#).

Free e-book: The Restoration Trust have published a memoir of their investigations at Warham Camp in Norfolk (featured on *Digging for Britain* Series 11 Part 4).

[WARHAM-CAMP-BOOK-complete-book.pdf](#)

UH Press Summer Sale. Many titles are discounted, including **Archaeology in Hertfordshire**, edited by CBA East Member **Dr Kris Lockyear**.

[Archaeology in Hertfordshire | University of Hertfordshire Press](#).

Further titles in the sale are at [Summer Sale | University of Hertfordshire Press](#)

CUP have published a **series of articles on Roman Britain**, many relating to our area. The

ones with a  symbol are Open Access. Here is a link:

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/browse-subjects/classical-studies/roman-britain?pageNum=1&searchWithinIds=9B3E7E94063F8308A20E9925A61B5BC2>

(Thanks to Colin at CAFG for this).

Time Traveller's tales; essays from the A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon archaeological excavations 2024. 22km of road, 232ha of land, 8 years of work – the scale of the A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon Road Improvement Scheme necessitated one of the largest commercial archaeological projects ever to be undertaken within the UK. Archaeologically, the discoveries were even more impressive, ranging from the remains of Pleistocene woolly mammoths, Neolithic and Bronze Age ceremonial and burial monuments, dozens of Iron Age and Roman settlements, a whole new Roman pottery industry, Saxon settlements with royal connections, a deserted medieval hamlet, nineteenth century railway remains, and everything in-between. This monograph discusses some of the project's key findings, major themes, and interesting debates, and is designed to supplement the other outputs from the project.

[Time Traveller's tales; essays from the A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon ar – Shop MOLA](#)

Many excavation reports from our region are available to purchase or download at [Home - East Anglian Archaeology \(eaareports.org.uk\)](#) (Downloads become available as the publications go out of print).

Cotswold Archaeology publish their **grey literature reports** online. These can be found using their map search tool at [Cotswold Archaeology - Reports Archive](#). Either click on the map (and keep clicking until the book symbol appears next to your site) or try using "advanced search" and enter your county.

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Not in our area, but of interest to many, a selection of Vindolanda excavation reports can be downloaded at [Explore Vindolanda's Free Excavation Reports](#).

ARCHIVED TALKS ONLINE

Oxford Archaeology Research Seminars are available on their YouTube channel. See <https://www.oxfordarchaeology.com/research-our-seminars>

How the Sutton Hoo treasures were stored at Aldwych Tube Station during WW2.
[Where were the Sutton Hoo Treasures during World War Two?](#) A British Museum video from 2018.

EXHIBITIONS

Made in Ancient Egypt at the Fitzwilliam Museum Cambridge

Advance notice: **3 October 2025 - 12 April 2026**

From elaborately decorated coffins to the Books of the Dead, ancient Egyptians produced objects which remain iconic today. But who were the makers behind them and how were they made?

Revealing the untold stories of the Egyptian makers, technology and techniques behind these extraordinary objects, our exciting new exhibition is the first to explore ancient Egypt through the lives of its craftspeople, bringing together jewellery, ceramics, sculpture and more, including spectacular objects never before seen in the UK.

From the domestic to the divine, discover how these captivating artefacts were made and meet the makers behind them. Egypt exhibition brings to life fascinating cutting-edge research which sheds new light on the ancient Egyptians' technical processes, many of which are immediately recognisable today, as well as how they lived, worked and worshipped.

[The Fitzwilliam Museum - Made in Ancient Egypt](#)

CONFERENCES

24th September. Fieldwalking Conference. This advance note from David Ingham of Albion Archaeology and CBA East Midlands:

I'm running a conference in Grantham on Wednesday 24th September, along with Mark Pearce (Nottingham University) and Daryl Garton (Ice Age Insights & CBA East Midlands). The conference aims to raise the profile of fieldwalking, particularly in light of recent successes in the East Midlands, and to address the issue of why it seems largely now to be practised only by amateur groups. We're keen to highlight past and more recent successes of fieldwalking, but also to address its limitations, and explore whether people feel that it still has a value as a method of prospection. We're planning to round off the day with a panel discussion, including representatives from organisations. I hope to have more details in due course.

Advance Notice: Norfolk County Council's Historic Environment Service will be hosting a weekend **conference on 1st-2nd November 2025 to celebrate half a century of archaeology and heritage across the East of England**. The conference will be held at University of East Anglia with a reception at Norwich Castle on the Saturday evening; it will be ticketed and open to all.

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EXCAVATION

Many of our member societies have digs arranged for this summer. These are often intended for their members, so it may be necessary to join the individual society. It's best to consult the individual websites of your local societies for information. Societies likely to be doing fieldwork this summer include MIDNAG, CRP, CAFG, WEAG..

MEETINGS AND LECTURES

Browse the websites of your local societies (see pages 9-10) for a further selection, and for later additions. **Always check websites for last-minute changes to talks and events.** If I receive additional information I will try to pass it on via email. All the links should work, but if not a search engine should find the information.

6th June, 7.30 pm. One Box at a Time: MAA's Stores Move Project by Imogen Gunn. Rampton Village Hall, Rampton, Cambridge CB24 8QA. FEAG and HIAG joint lecture.

6th June. 6.30 pm. Time Team film screening - Sutton Hoo Dig part 3 - Lost Treasure Rescued! The screening is followed by a discussion panel and Q & A with Time Team presenters Helen Geake (small finds specialist and Anglo-Saxon expert) and Matt Williams (Field Archaeologist) alongside Professor Martin Carver (Emeritus Professor of Archaeology at the University of York), Madeleine Hummler (Archaeologist and Prehistorian) and National Trust Regional Archaeologist Angus Wainwright.

This event is taking place at the Riverside Theatre, Woodbridge, IP12 1BH. Doors open at 6.30pm ready for the film to start at 7pm. Most suitable for adults and children over the age of 12. £8.00. Booking is essential: [Buy Time Team film screening - Sutton Hoo Dig part 3 - Lost Treasure Rescued! Tickets online - National Trust](#)

7th June. 9.30 am – 5.00 pm. EERIAC Industrial Archaeology Conference at the Prickwillow Museum, Cambridgeshire. Morning lectures on waterways transport. Afternoon tour of the museum including engine runs and a visit to Streatham Old Engine. [EERIAC 2025 – The Association for Industrial Archaeology](#). Booking details were sent in an earlier email, but “on the day” visitors are apparently welcome.

7th and 8th June. Roman and Medieval Festival in Colchester. [Roman and Medieval Festival 2025 - Colchester Events](#)

9th June. 7.15 for 7.30 pm. Victoria County History of Essex update Ken Crowe. WEAG online meeting. Non-members are welcome to join in the Zoom meetings (for a £2 contribution). Contact membership@weag.org.uk for more details.

11th June, 7.30 pm. Medieval nunneries of the Diocese of Ely by Craig Cessford (Cambridge Archaeology Unit) at the McDonald Building, Downing Street, Cambridge. (CAFG)

20th June. Walking tour of Great Yarmouth Town Wall. For details see GYLHAS website: [Great Yarmouth Local History and Archaeology Society - Excursions](#)

4th July, 7.30 pm. Fenland landscapes, sediments and archaeology: ancient past, complex present and uncertain future by Phil Stastney (McDonald Institute).

This talk will give a whistle-stop tour through the rich history of archaeological and palaeoecological research in the Fens, illustrating how the human history of the region, past, present and future, is entwined with the complex sequence of sediments and peats that characterise the Fenland. Phil will share some initial results from the Fenscapes Project, a new initiative hosted at the McDonald Institute. Rampton Village Hall, Rampton, Cambridge CB24 8QA. (FEAG).

5th July, 10.30 am. Object Handling: Archaeology at Chelmsford Museum. See [Object Handling](#)

24th July. All day. The Festival of Essex Archaeology & Heritage 2025.

Multiple free events at Cressing Temple Barns, Witham Road, Braintree, Cressing, Essex, England, CM77 8PD. Details and booking at [The Festival of Essex Archaeology & Heritage 2025 | Eventbrite](#)

26th July NAHRG Norfolk Landscape History Day. This year's Norfolk History Day will take the form of a Norfolk landscape history conference as a tribute to the popular UEA landscape historian, Tom Williamson. It will take place on Saturday 26 July 2025 in the Thomas Paine Lecture Theatre at the UEA.

The speakers will be:

James Albone (Historic England)

Louise Crawley (UEA)

Jonathan Finch (York University)

Richard Hoggett (Freelance Heritage Consultant)

Nicola Whyte (Exeter University)

See [NAHRG - The Norfolk Archaeological & Historical Research Group](#)

17th October, 7.30 pm. Coastal Communities: The Archaeology of Sizewell C.

By **Claire Halley, Oxford Cotswold Archaeology**, Cotswold Archaeology Work in a Joint Venture on the Project with Oxford Archaeology. Christchurch, King Street, Great Yarmouth (GYLHAS).

LOCAL SOCIETIES Here is a list of our Member Societies. Please see individual Societies' websites for further information.

ALDEBURGH AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

<http://www.adlhs.org.uk/>

AYLSHAM ROMAN PROJECT

[Aylsham Roman Project – Getting the community into holes](#)

CAISTOR ROMAN PROJECT

[Caistor Roman Project | Venta Icenorum, Casitor St Edmund, Norfolk.](#)

CAMBRIDGE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY

[Cambridge Antiquarian Society | Safeguarding Cambridgeshire's Past](#)

CAMBRIDGE ARCHAEOLOGY FIELD GROUP

<http://www.cafg.net/>

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CAMBRIDGE INDEPENDENT ARCHAEOLOGY no website

CHELMSFORD MUSEUM SERVICE [Chelmsford Museum](#) | [Essex Regiment](#) | [Free Entry](#)

CHESS VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

[Chess Valley Archaeological & Historical Society](#)

COLCHESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

Forthcoming lectures will be available to Group members via ZOOM. [News & Events - Colchester Archaeological Group \(caguk.net\)](#)

EAST HERTS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY AND BRAUGHING ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP <https://www.ehas.org.uk/html/events.html>

ESSEX INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP <http://esah1852.org.uk/eiag>

ESSEX SOCIETY FOR ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY

[Events](#) | [Essex Society for Archaeology & History \(esah1852.org.uk\)](#)

FEN EDGE ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP <https://feagblog.wordpress.com/>

FENLAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY <https://www.fenarch.org.uk/>

GYLHAS [Great Yarmouth Local History and Archaeological Society](#)
(greatyarmouthlocalhistoryandarchaeology.com)

HISTON AND IMPINGTON ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP <https://hiarchaeology.wordpress.com/#>

LONG MELFORD HERITAGE TRUST www.melfordheritage.org.uk

LONG MELFORD HISTORICAL & ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

[Long Melford Historical & Archaeological Society \(lmhas.co.uk\)](http://LongMelfordHistoricalAndArchaeologicalSociety.lmhas.co.uk)

MIDDLE NENE ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP <https://www.midnag.org.uk/events.html>

NORFOLK ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL RESEARCH GROUP

<http://www.nahrg.org.uk/>

NORFOLK INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY <http://www.norfolkia.org.uk/>

Meetings in person and on ZOOM.

NORWICH & NORFOLK ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

<https://www.nnas.info/activities/#conferences>

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE MUSEUM [What's On - North Lincolnshire Museum](#)

ORWELL HISTORY SOCIETY [Orwell History Society](#) | [Orwell Parish Council](#)

ROCHFORD HUNDRED FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP <http://rhfag.dubsnet.co.uk/>

SPALDING GENTLEMEN'S SOCIETY <https://www.sgsoc.org/>

STOUR VALLEY COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGY

[About](#) | [Stour Valley Community Archaeology \(wordpress.com\)](#)

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SUFFOLK ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD GROUP [Suffolk Archaeological Field Group](http://suffolkinstitute.org.uk)
(suffolkinstitute.org.uk)

SUFFOLK ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE [Suffolk Archaeological Service - Suffolk County Council](http://suffolkarchaeologicalservice.suffolk.gov.uk)

SUFFOLK INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY
<https://www.suffolkinstitute.org.uk/>

WALTHAM ABBEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY (on Facebook)

WELWYN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
<https://welwynarchaeologicalsociety.wordpress.com/>

WEST ESSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP <http://www.weag.org.uk/events/lecture-programme/>

WEST NORFOLK AND KING'S LYNN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
<http://wnklas.greylark.org.uk/main.php?p=home.htm>

WOODBIDGE RIVERSIDE TRUST
[Woodbridge Riverside Trust - A thriving community space at the heart of the Woodbridge waterfront](http://woodbridgeriverside.org.uk)

MEMBERSHIP

Many of our Members renew their membership alongside their national membership, via the CBA website. Members who are not also members of the national organisation renew via standing order to our bank account **or** annually on 1st January. Membership is £6.00 for individuals and £10.00 for Affiliated Societies. To join, please use the form at [Membership-Application-DCG.pdf](http://archaeologyuk.org/membership-application-dcg.pdf) (archaeologyuk.org). Please contact me if you need our bank details to make a transfer.

There is no need to join CBA to be member of CBA East.

Please let us know if you wish to be removed from our mailing list.

GRANTS

CBA East awards small individual grants in support of archaeological study. We are keen to support a broad range of activity, and particularly wish to promote education, research, public awareness and participation in archaeology in the region. The criteria are flexible and hence appropriate for individuals or newly formed groups who are seeking funding for training, help with investigation of potential sites, or informal publication of initial work. Applications from young people who live in the region are particularly welcome. There is no longer a maximum on the amount of grant that can be applied for. Each grant application will be determined on its merits but must have some educational benefit for the local community. Applications for grants may be submitted at any time for consideration at the next following Committee meeting. Further details at <http://cbae.archaeologyuk.org/grants/>.

CBA CODE OF CONDUCT

As affiliates of the national Council for British Archaeology, we at CBA East have signed up to the CBA Code of Conduct which can be read here: <https://www.archaeologyuk.org/code-of-conduct.html>

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COPY FOR THE NEWSLETTER

The next Newsletter will be issued in September 2025. **Please send items for inclusion to** CBAE.Newsletter@archaeologyuk.org.

Secretaries of Affiliate Societies who have not already done so are invited to add me to their mailing lists. I can also e-mail our members with information about specific events in between our regular Newsletters, but please give me enough warning! I may not be able to pass on information if not given reasonable notice. **It is always helpful if I can give a link to a relevant web page.** Use the above address or my personal address gordon780@btinternet.com

My thanks to all those Member Societies and Groups who have sent me information this time! Please bear in mind that I cannot always include everything I receive – Members are urged to visit the Society websites listed above for more detailed information.

David Gordon. Newsletter Editor.