



# NASNEWS

Newsletter of the Northamptonshire Archaeological Society

Website: [www.northants-archaeology.org.uk](http://www.northants-archaeology.org.uk)



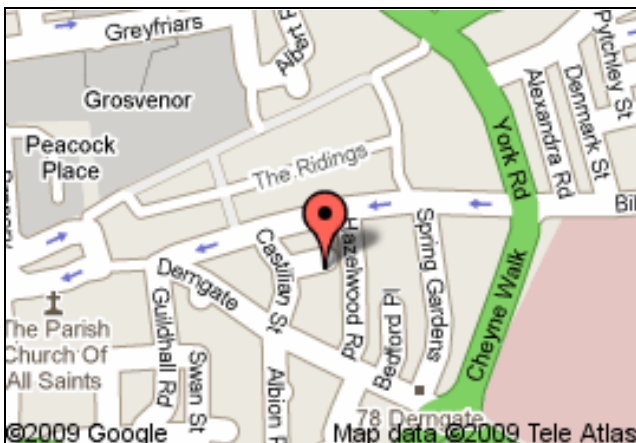
## October 2014

### NAS AGM and public lecture

### Thursday, 6 November

The NAS Annual General Meeting will be held in the Humfrey Rooms of the Northamptonshire Natural History Society:

**10 Castilian Terrace  
Northampton NN1 1LD**



There will be tea/coffee and biscuits from 6.30pm, with the NAS AGM at 7pm:

Officers' reports

Statement of accounts

Election of members of council

The public lecture will start at c.7.20 pm, and will be a joint meeting with the Northampton Branch of the Historical Association.

Please note the journal will not be available for collection at the AGM, we are aiming for a spring production.

### John Williams

### Reflections on Medieval Northampton

John Williams was head of the Archaeological Unit of the Northampton Development Corporation through the 1970s to the mid-1980s. He led excavations at St Peter's Street and the 'Palaces' site, which demonstrated that the origins of the town lay in the middle Saxon period. The results of his recent documentary research, 'Town and Crown: The Governance of Later Thirteenth Century Northampton', will shortly be published by the Northamptonshire Record Society.

### NAS COMMITTEE

Anyone wishing to join the committee to help keep the Society running, and who can bring in new energy and fresh ideas, please step forward.

New candidates should notify the Secretary in advance, together with the names of two members to nominate and second their application (or they can be nominated on the night).

Elected by the committee:

Chair: Steven Hollowell

Vice-chair: David Waller

Standing for re-election to the committee:

Secretary and journal editor  
Andy Chapman

Membership secretary  
Pat Chapman

Treasurer  
Carol Holmes

Other committee members:

Graham Cadman, Brian Giggins and Roy Friendship-Taylor.

## NAS TREASURER

In the absence of a willing volunteer, Ian Barrie has continued to serve the Society as Treasurer for several years after he first asked the committee to seek a replacement, and yet again the committee would like to extend their thanks to Ian and his wife for their services to the society, and for supplies of tea and biscuits at committee meetings.

However, we have now finally found a willing replacement in Carol Holmes (née Simmonds), a Project Officer with MOLA Northampton, who has been working and living in the area for many years.

## SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER

A reminder for those who do not pay by direct debit that subscriptions were due in September, apart from those who joined from this summer onward. We have also finally made some small increase to the subscription rate, and would ask all those paying by Direct Debit to adjust the amount owing accordingly.

£12 individual membership,  
£15 family membership, £10 students  
£10 local associations, £25 institutions

Cheques payable to Northamptonshire Archaeological Society: to Pat Chapman, NAS Membership Secretary, 4 Oat Hill Drive. Northampton, NN3 5AL.



## NAS 40th anniversary celebration

Saturday, 20 September and  
Sunday, 21 September 2014

Sywell Country Park  
Ancient Crafts weekend

To mark the 40th anniversary of NAS we held an Ancient Crafts weekend at Sywell Country Park for NAS members and the public. It was disappointing that more members and others (such as MOLA Northampton staff) did not take up the opportunity to get involved in the workshop sessions. But the NAS committee enjoyed testing their skills at pottery manufacturing and flint knapping, with varying degrees of success (see photographs). Saturday was quiet but Sunday saw a constant stream of visitors, so the event was a success from that point of view.

We would like to thank the group of re-enactors who made the weekend such a success: Graham Taylor: Potted History, James Dilley: flint knapping, Alex and Paul Thompson: Guardrobe and Michael Brown: The Historic Gardener.



## Potential spring meeting

If there is anyone interested in visiting a coppiced woodland, let me know so I can gauge potential interest.

Andy Chapman

NAS secretary and journal editor  
NAS EMAIL [NAS196674@gmail.com](mailto:NAS196674@gmail.com)

## Forthcoming and current events


The annual Brixworth Lecture, on Saturday, 1 November, is always well worth attending for the lecture itself, the chance to spend some time sitting in Brixworth Church and, last but not least, the excellent pre-lecture tea served in the nearby Heritage centre.

THE FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, BRIXWORTH  
WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER'S MEDIEVAL RESEARCH CENTRE

# A SEALED BOOK

## INTERPRETING SCRIPTURE IN THE ANGLO-SAXON CHURCH

The thirty-second annual All Saints' lecture will be given by



**JENNIFER O'REILLY**  
PHD, MRIA, FSA  
SCHOOL OF HISTORY (retired)  
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CORK  
IRELAND


**SATURDAY 1ST NOVEMBER, 2014**  
**AT 5.00pm**

**ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, BRIXWORTH**  
Tea from 3.30pm at the Heritage Centre  
Church Street, Brixworth

Tickets can be obtained from the addresses below *and* on the door, price £5 incl. tea (students and 'Friends' concession £3), with all proceeds to Brixworth church.

<b>KATE KNIGHT</b> 1a Frog Hall, Brixworth Northants NN6 9DH E: <a href="mailto:brixworthfriends1@yahoo.com">brixworthfriends1@yahoo.com</a>	<b>JO STORY</b> School of History University of Leicester Leicester LE1 7RH E: <a href="mailto:js73@le.ac.uk">js73@le.ac.uk</a>
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In Northampton there is a long running exhibition on Northampton Castle at Hazelrigg House, but note that it is only open Friday to Sunday. I have not seen it yet, but I have provided some images and finds from the excavations in the outer bailey, the station car park, by MOLA Northampton in 2013. There is also a reconstructed shellyware cooking pot of the 12th century from the castle excavations currently on display in the museum entrance lobby. And the museum will also host an evening of lectures on the theme of medieval Northampton, on Thursday, 13 November, booking essential.



# Medieval Northampton

**13 November | 7 - 9.30pm**  
**Northampton Museum & Art Gallery**

An evening of discussion about the lives of people in Medieval Northampton through finds from the county.


Celebrate Peter Waddell's book launch  
'The Coinage of the Northampton Mint:  
Including thoughts on the Abbots of Peterborough'

**Speakers; Andy Chapman from MOLA,  
Paul Blinkhorn as featured on Time Team, Julie Cassidy**

£4. Booking essential. Ring 01604 838111


# Echoes of Northampton Castle




An exhibition exploring one building through 1,000 years  
**3 October 2014 - 28 February 2015**



**Hazelrigg House, 33 Marefair, Northampton**

Open Friday, Saturday and Sunday.  
Friday - Saturday 10am - 4pm,  
Sunday 12 - 4pm



# Northamptonshire Archaeological Society

## AGM and public lecture

Thursday, 6 November 2014

*Doors open 6.30 for light refreshments: NAS AGM - 7.00pm*

*Followed at 7.20 by a public lecture -*

**John Williams**

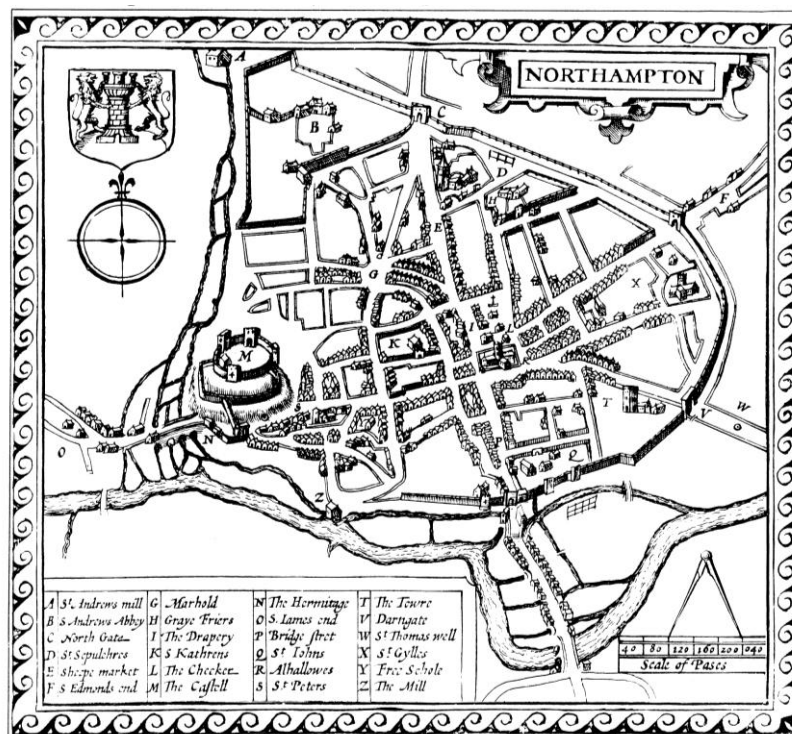
## Reflections on Medieval Northampton

at

The Humfrey Rooms, Northamptonshire Natural History Society,  
10 Castilian Terrace, Northampton NN1 1LD

*All welcome - free entry*

*Joint meeting with the Northampton Branch of the Historical  
Association*



John Williams was head of the Archaeological Unit of the Northampton Development Corporation in the 1970s to mid-1980s. He led excavations at St Peter's Street and the 'Palaces' site, which demonstrated that the origins of the town lay in the middle Saxon period. The results of his recent documentary research, 'Town and Crown: The Governance of Later Thirteenth Century Northampton', will shortly be published by the Northamptonshire Record Society.