

WEAG Chairman's Report March 2013 - 2014

I have been Chairman for a long time and I feel that now is the time to resign the Chairmanship and give up responsibility for the programme of lectures. In addition Kim Davison has resigned as Secretary. During my time as Chairman we have had a new Constitution, which gave greater continuity to the Chairmanship.

It has been an uneventful year. The attendances at meetings have been very good and the audiences have been responsive. The current membership is 155. Thanks to John Avis and Andrew Madeley we now have a website which raises our public profile. The use of email allows the easy distribution of WEAG News. WEAG News was started by Brian Moore, and we must thank Brian for all of his work with WEAG News and the Review, his production of the membership list and for providing a home for the Committee.

We had another good programme of talks:

- March 2013 – The AGM and the Presidential Address 'Aspects of Londinium' by Harvey Sheldon.
- April 2013 – Odette Nelson, Ian Heritage and Guy Taylor, all members of WEAG, presented 'Bullets, Bedouins and Barrage Balloons'.
- May 2013 – The well attended Rudge Lecture, given by John Cotton, was 'One Thames or Two? The Archaeology of the London River'.
- June 2013 – Karen Stewart of MOLAS talked on the archaeological analysis of 'Food Plant Remains from London'.
- September 2013 – A presentation on Archaeological Geophysics techniques used by WEAG, given by Andrew Madeley, John Avis and Ralph Potter.
- October 2013 – 'Excavations at Marks Hall – a Medieval and Tudor Manor', by Tim Dennis of Colchester Archaeological Group.
- November 2013 – The planned speaker was unable to attend, so John Shepherd kindly stepped in to present 'Pompeii of the North – Bucklersbury Square'.
- December 2013 – John Shepherd gave a fascinating guide through the history and the catastrophes in 'Pompeii and Herculaneum'.
- January 2014 – Our Social Evening; thanks to everyone who everyone who gave their time for, and contributed to, making it a success.
- February 2014 – 'From Log boat to Warrior – the Evolution of the wooden Ship in Northern Europe' was presented by Elliott Wragg of the Thames Discovery Programme.

Much has changed over the past few years. We have been working with Copped Hall for a long time now; we are friendly, and work, with London and Middlesex Archaeological Society (MoLAS), City of London Archaeological Society (CoLAS) and the Museum of London.

Many thanks to all who have done so much for WEAG:

- John Avis for all his electronic and support activities
- Andrew Madeley for the printing and communications work
- Ann Stacey for her extensive publicity activities
- Kim Davison for her role as Secretary
- Colin Mann for taking on the role of Treasurer
- Theresa Pell and the members of the Research and Excavation Committee for their work in organising and running all the digs.

Gil Burn

Reports on the lectures are included in the regular WEAG News, and will be also be in the 2014 WEAG Review.