Olney Archaeological Society

Day Schools 2024

23rd & 24th July

This year's venue is:

Grendon Hall 67 Main Road Grendon Northants NN7 1JW

There is plenty of parking at the site. The nearest station is Wellingborough.

Price, £48 per day, includes 2 course lunch and refreshments. Please apply for registration and payment by 19th June at the latest to Monica Stainton at: monica.stainton@btinternet.com

Please note that numbers are strictly limited so, to avoid disappointment, prompt application is recommended.

23rd July 2024 – Dr Jonathan Foyle

TUDOR ARCHAEOLOGY: LOST IN PLAIN SIGHT

The Civil War led to the destruction of the majority of royal houses, and the selling off or melting down of the many thousands of rich chattels that adorned the court. Today, only a few of the palaces known to Henry VIII survive in part, and we are left with meagre survivals of material culture and art in museums. So what happened to the objects known to the Tudor monarchy? And what has the internet age enabled us to discover?

10.00-11.00AM George Shaw: A Victorian Forger at Work

George Shaw of Uppermill, West Yorkshire (1810-76) gained a reputation for inventing antiquities of carved oak. He was, in short, a forger who duped the aristocracy of his day, eager to obtain their family heirlooms. But he was also a collector. So what were the authentic models that enabled his versions to be taken seriously?

Coffee

11.30-12.30AM The Marriage Bed of Henry VIII

2010: an auction sale of a "Victorian" four-post bed. After a decade of study, what can it tell us?

Lunch

2.00-3.00PM An Object to Examine

Afternoon tea

3.30-4.30PM The Mystery at Old Warden

Anne of Cleves was the fourth queen of Henry VIII. A church in Bedfordshire claimed to have some panels from a chapel related to her in Bruges. But what, asked Pevsner, has she got to do with Bruges? And what does a closer look reveal?

24th July 2024 – Professor Stephen Upex

RESEARCHING YOUR PARISH.

What to do, where to go, what to look for, who to ask: An archaeological and historical approach to the many sources of information you can collect, research, collate and even write about related to your parish or local area.

10.00-11.00 AM The Historical Approach.

A review of the historical sources you can use to search your parish. Documents, maps, wills, inventories, land charters. And where to go to find such items.

Coffee

11.30-12.30 AM The Archaeological Approach.

Air photographs, lidar, field-walking, trial excavations, finds. Where to go for help, who to ask.

Lunch

2.00-3.00 PM A Practical Session.

A practical session where you can handle and look at archaeological finds, original historical documents, useful books, air photographs, lidar plot and other items that you may encounter in your parish researches.

Afternoon tea

3.30-4.30 PM Other Sources.

The use of place names, hedgerow plots, landscape features, diaries, topographical accounts, early images and illustrations, county histories, the Historical Environment Record (HER), Archaeological Data Services (ADS) and online links, parish buildings and the church.

Conclusions – a comment on how to get started.