

# WAS NEWS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WELWYN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY WINTER 2005

Having made it through the first issue under the new management, mistakes and all, I am not sure that I do not approach the second with some trepidation. However, spurred on by the various kind comments about that effort, here we go with the Winter issue. If I am allowed to continue, it is my intention to make further improvements to the production and appearance of the Newsletter and provide an open forum for all the membership and anyone else that I can persuade to contribute to our archaeological education, entertainment and general wellbeing. In the meantime however, frustrated by problems with technology and the need to meet a timetable set by other events thus some pages are not as I would wish in terms of production and appearance, in this case cut and paste is exactly what has happened. The content remains, I think, instructive and interesting.

Originally intended to be a mid season effort I failed to take into account that it would be necessary to accommodate and advertise the social event of the Winter, or so I am told, the **WAS** Christmas Party and more details will appear together with the separate, but attached booking form, later in this Newsletter.

There is also reminder about membership subscriptions and our annual trawl though the list to see whose are still outstanding for renewal. The form sent with the Autumn issue was very successful in that the response at the first two meetings achieved an excellent result, a shorter queue at Cliff's 'desk', less frustration about the coffee getting cold and lots of funds. However, some renewals remain outstanding and without any other indication we have to assume, optimistically, that these have been overlooked. How can anyone not want to continue to support the activities of the happy band of excavators, lectures and outings at such reasonable costs Therefore if you have another renewal invitation form attached to this Newsletter it means that your 2005 to 2006 subscription is overdue. It will also be appreciated that we cannot keep circulating the Newsletter free of charge beyond each season.

Amongst the first of the reports on the Societies activities must the continuing saga at Hawbush Close. Whether it is a hole, excavation or ditch remains, in my opinion, to be determined; specifically because to date we only have one rounded end, two sides and no indication of how or where the 'open end' closes to form an enclosure. In the meantime in accordance with demonstrable archaeological tradition in the last ten minutes of the dig on the last day of the season and preparatory to organising the return of the big digger to return the land to the Allotments a very significant discovery was made, to the accompanying hysterical laughter of Kris Lockyear and Lewis Orchard who were only intent on tidying the bottom of the trench, having found a Roman coin there then appeared in the dust the front of a skull. The team retired to consider the options.

















