

# SAXON

## THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SUTTON HOO SOCIETY

AUTUMN 1986

Nº 5

FREE TO MEMBERS

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### SUTTON HOO: 1986 SEASON



Professors Martin Carver and Philip Rahtz remove the first turf from the scheduled monument, watched by Freddie.

Photo: Nigel Mac Beth  
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Three years of site evaluation are now complete, and we have carefully worked out our strategy for excavating the site, which will include five barrows - a sizeable piece of the scheduled monument.

Mounds 2 and 5 are in the first sector to be excavated, and both mounds are already divided up into several bays which will be dug, layer by layer, alternately. This method of excavation, known as quadranting, allows complete sections through the mound to be recorded without having to keep them standing several metres high, when they would be in danger of collapsing.

In this way the barrow will be completely excavated, except for the section connecting it to Mound 5, which will temporarily be left standing for us to examine the relationship between them. If possible, we would like to know which one was constructed first. Our expectations generally are high, and the work we have done so far on Mound 2 suggests that we may find a ship comparable in size to that discovered in 1939.

One quarter of the top surface has been removed this season, and we have confirmed the existence of a quarry ditch around the barrow. We can see Basil Brown's trench showing as an area of particularly disturbed soil, and 12 ship rivets have been found which must have been disturbed by him: signs of more recent damage sustained by the ship we hope to find.

A spoil compound has been designed and constructed, and the 750 tons of material which constitute Mound 2 will all be sieved. This is because the finds, mostly displaced from earlier periods (Neolithic, Beaker, Bronze Age and so on), can be plotted 3-dimensionally and will tell us where the earth itself came from.

Excavation out in the field continues, and this year we have discovered curious features which represent tree-pits. These are the holes left by trees as they are blown down, containing the root mantle, displaced top-soil, and uprooted natural. They are undated

as yet, and could be prehistoric, or perhaps a grave associated with the Anglo-Saxon cemetery.

Three more graves have been found, one of them containing two bodies buried face down. The deepest grave has revealed a crouched burial with body buried on its side in a sitting position with associated planks, possibly representing a coffin. Moulds are being made of the excavated burials in order to produce fibreglass replicas for public display. These will lie alongside those created last year, which have proved so popular with visitors.

Martin Carver

## WOODBIDGE FERRY

This summer between June 21 - September 21 the Sutton Hoo Society again operated the Woodbridge Ferry. The reopening of this ancient foot ferry, which dates back to the medieval period and possibly before, is one of the most imaginative services provided by the Society. It is popular with the public, particularly visitors on holiday; and by crossing the River Deben and walking up to the site, visitors get a really pleasant afternoon out.

Much of the success of this our second season is largely due to the enthusiasm of Dan Hussey of Butley who, after leaving school, took on the task of ferryman. The new ferry boat Saxon Clog, a wooden boat built in 1969 by Frank Knights, with an inboard diesel engine,

has had cheaper running costs and is more stable than the original Saxon which is now up for sale. However it has proved impossible this year to operate from the Woodbridge low water ferry hards because of the mud silting up the Mill Creek channel. This has meant that the Ferry has only operated on alternative weekends. However, Dan Hussey and myself have put up ferry timetables over a wide area of Suffolk so that people have been attracted to use the ferry. In August we reached a new peak when seventy people used the ferry in one afternoon. There is no reason why this ferry should not continue to attract more people as it becomes more widely known.

Robert Simper

New ferry boat  
"SAXON CLOG"  
Operated by the  
Sutton Hoo  
Society

Photo:  
R. Simper



## HON. SECRETARY REPORTS:

The season warmed up slowly both as regards visitors and weather and sterling work was done by guides often in very adverse conditions. Visitors do like to see some action and the 1938/39 story is not enough to hold their interest alone and no current digging took place until July, and then at a very low key. Whilst numbers and interest increased as summer(?) arrived we suffered greatly from lack of television programmes as last year as the drop in numbers during September amounted to over One Thousand less than in 1985. By the end of September the Team had tidied up, packed up, dismantled the static display, and the gravefield had been bull-dozed as in previous years. Later visitors complained that there was nothing to see and in consequence it was decided to cease guided tours after the last weekend of September.

The Federation of Dark Age Societies Anglo-Saxon 'rave-up' on the 2nd August had the benefit of warm, sunny weather, but attendance was poor, largely due to the lack of publicity in the short period of time available to organize the show and especially to find a suitable venue. However, all who attended enjoyed the battles and the town of Woodbridge was enlivened by the colourful groups of warriors, camp-followers and children seeking

refreshment (mead no doubt) in the local hostelryes.

We did receive a number of complaints regarding tour and ferry times but few were substantiated and a number of complainants remarked that 'I never read notices!' One irate visitor who arrived in his own yacht complete with yellow wellies asked, 'Where's the boat then?' When it was explained that there was no boat he became abusive, declared the whole thing an adjectival swindle, refused to pay the entrance charge and had a good look around the static display, afterwards leaving to continue his education, no doubt.

In general it was a most enjoyable season, many visitors expressing their great interest and thanks and assuring us that they would be visiting us again during the next five years. I would like particularly to pay tribute to the guide team and their invaluable ticket office helpers who were dedicated and enthusiastic at all times and in all weathers.

Lastly, an appeal for more guides and helpers - any member who would enjoy the challenge and the pleasure please get in touch as soon as possible, and we'll put you in the picture!

"Berry shakers"  
in action: the  
first bucketful  
tested by A.Copp  
and C.Royle.

Photo:  
Nigel Mac Beth.  
© S.H.R.Trust



## SEASONAL REPORT - 1 SILAGE PITS, MORE BODIES

This year, excavation began back in mid June. With only a few team members and students the long eastern edge (or section) of the silage pit was investigated. The silage pit is located in the N W corner of the site diagonally opposite the Sutton Hoo Society hut. It had been cleared in the summer of 1984 when a cursory investigation suggested we were dealing with uniquely thick archaeological strata. A number of ideas were put forward to explain this: for example, was it part of the make-up of Mound 11 - just over the farm track from the silage pit?

Unfortunately this year's careful excavation and recording proved without doubt that the strata had been truncated and partially destroyed by ploughing in the 19thC. Indeed, below the trees of Top Hat Wood deep plough furrows can be seen under the grass. The ploughing went right across the area of the silage pit (dug in the 1950's), and has flattened archaeological features visible in

the section. Smaller features have probably been destroyed without trace, leaving only the deeper ones to be recorded. The most impressive of these is a large prehistoric hearth containing thousands of burnt flint fragments and a few flint and ceramic artefacts.

All the features encountered in the silage pit section are difficult to put into context, since surrounding features would either have been destroyed by digging the pit, or lie underneath the farm track. Obviously the hearth could have been the focus of feasting activity, but its size and the density of finds suggest a function perhaps associated instead with the rituals surrounding human burial.

At the end of July our attention was focussed on the training session and excavation in the field east of the site, where two adjacent areas were opened. One of these (Int 32), had already been dug over the previous two seasons but not quite completed. Three more graves were found: one of them containing two bodies buried face down, and the deepest containing a flexed body buried in a wooden box or barrel. The area further east (Int 39), was opened primarily to locate the limit of the Anglo-Saxon cemetery. There were no graves here, and instead a range of prehistoric pits and postholes were found.

One of the more interesting features defined was a large tree pit, the hole left by a tree which has been blown down. Although undated, it is just possible that it was left by a tree growing in a grove associated with the cemetery.

During this autumn and winter work outside will continue with the removal of turf from Mounds 2 and 5. The turf must be carefully recorded before removal so that the mounds can be reconstructed to their original contours after excavation. The large area containing the two mounds has been divided into a number of rectangular segments, and the turf from each one is being removed to a depth of 25cm. The sides of the segments will be drawn before the area is taken down further by the same process. Under the topsoil a number of artefacts have already come to light, including several ship rivets from Basil Brown's upcast and backfill, but by far the largest number of finds belong to the prehistoric occupation. At this stage it is possible to identify tentatively a ditch surrounding Mound 2, and three spoil heaps left by the 1938 excavation. As work continues (weather allowing) we expect to increase both the number of finds recovered and the range of features recorded, dug into the side of Mound 2.

Andrew Copp



## SEASONAL REPORT - 2 BARROWS, BALLOONS & BABIES

This has been a season of change at Sutton Hoo, not least because by early 1986 the period of site evaluation had been completed and plans laid for a comprehensive examination of the monument.

In early June the project staff (Andrew Copp, Cathy Royle and myself) packed the project records in the Field Archaeology Unit and bid farewell to the lawns and redbrick of the Birmingham University campus to journey south-eastwards and settle in Suffolk. A word-processor, micro-computer, photocopier,

Hot-air balloon being launched to take aerial shots of the excavations. (Facility provided by Bryan Ribbens.)

Photo: Nigel MacBeth

© S.H.R.Trust

IF ALL GOES TO PLAN, WE SHOULD BE COMPLETING THE EXCAVATION OF A LARGE SHIP AT JUST ABOUT THIS TIME NEXT YEAR . . . . .

filing-cabinet and yards of shelving were installed in offices near the site, and files and finds boxes were arranged in ordered rows. Back in the B M hut, the trowels and mugs were counted and the mice expelled in preparation for the influx of diggers and club biscuits (vital to the smooth running of the project).

Then came the news that Martin Carver our Director was now a Professor, following his appointment to the Chair of Archaeology at York, and would be moving there with his family before the start of the autumn term. The champagne corks were scarcely dry before we were celebrating another great event . . . the birth of a daughter (Genevieve) to Martin and Madeleine.

Meanwhile, the silage pit at Sutton Hoo had been re-opened and recording was in progress. A new 3-D plotting routine was being developed which represents a new departure in archaeological technique, and greatly speeds up the accurate recording of the heights and grid co-ordinates necessary for each object and layer excavated. It involves using a theodolite and staff together with a specially programmed hand-held computer, which instantly calculates the co-ordinates required from angles and other data fed in on site. To the east of the barrows, a large area of the field had been cleared of ploughsoil, and the new MSC team from Ipswich were steadily emptying backfill from the holes left by our earlier work.

By August, the strawberry picker's accommodation at Oak Tree Farm, Hasketon, had been spring-cleaned ready for the arrival of 28 student archaeologists whose home it would be over the next six weeks. Housework and training rotas had been drawn up on an enormous charts, and the beds counted. The team this year totalled 65, and included archaeologists from three units, the British Museum and the National Maritime Museum; postgraduates from Birmingham, Glasgow and Cambridge; students from the universities of Belfast, Birmingham, Cornell, Durham, London, St. Andrews and York; a number of local 6th formers about to begin their degrees; our ten MSC staff, and several local people who volunteered their help. Many were familiar faces from previous seasons - such as our intrepid photographer Nigel Mac Beth, undaunted by the prospect of further airborne

trips in the course of duty; and the two 'recorders' or supervisors financed this year by the Sutton Hoo Society; Sally Foster and Paul McCulloch.

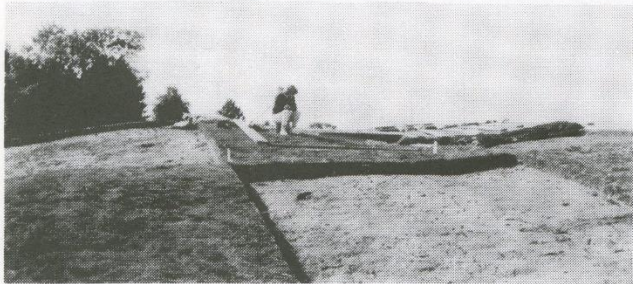
Once again we were lucky in having Rosemary Halliday and Peter Berry to organise the catering, and three meals a day were produced for 6 weeks in an atmosphere of friendly calm which was most welcoming after a hard day's work, and only subject to minor insurrections when popular dishes didn't quite stretch to third helpings all round or there were too many takers for the last sausage.

On the second day of the session - right on cue - scheduled monument consent was granted and we were able to begin the excavation of Mounds 2 and 5 in addition to the field site. Peter soon constructed two free-standing sieves (the 'Berry shakers') which the Society paid for, to speed up the sifting of spoil; and a barrow run across the uneven turf to the spoil pounds. Professor Carver's family joined us in Suffolk, and young Freddie (2) showed an early inclination to follow the family trade, shifting several turfs a day in his Freddie-sized wheelbarrow. A steady flow of visitors came to witness the cutting edge of British Archaeology in action (and the three new graves we had found), and were shown around with enthusiasm by the Society guides who gave up their weekends to keep the public informed.

The summer passed quickly, and all too soon Nigel was being sent up the photographic tower (donated by the Society last winter) and aloft in a hot-air balloon to take aerial shots of the completed excavation. Tools were cleaned and greased, records completed, and the two Honda generators - given by the Society in 1985 - were primed ready for winter work. Pete and Rosemary laid on full Christmas dinner at the farm for 30, complete with all the trimmings (and a tree), to bring the session to a memorable close.

But this year, though many diggers have departed, work on Mound 2 will continue with myself, Andrew Copp, Cathy Royle, Nigel Mac Beth and our MSC team from Ipswich. If all goes to plan, we should be completing the excavation of a large ship at just about this time next year . . . . .

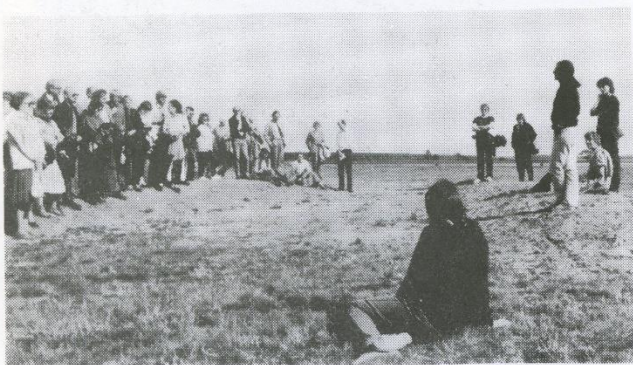
Jenny Glazebrook



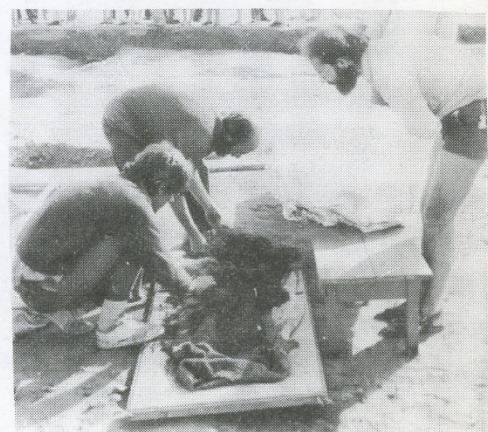
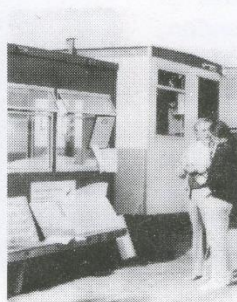
## SUTTON HOO SOCIETY OPEN DAY

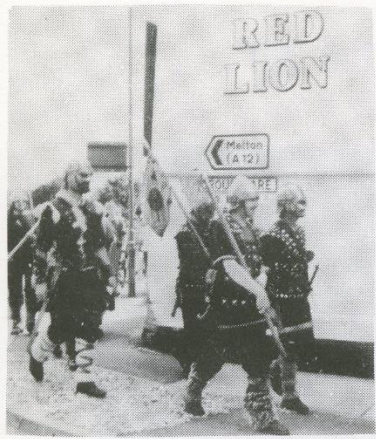
September 7th 1986

Members of the Society,  
and their friends were  
shown over the site by  
the experts. A day much  
appreciated and enjoyed  
by all.



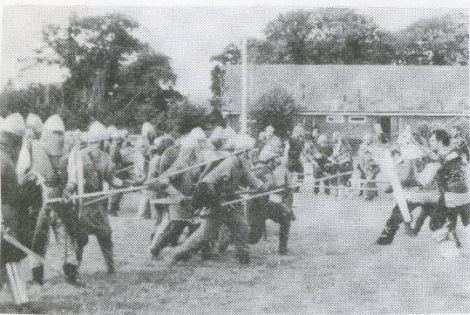
© MARK A. MITCHELS  
Photographer



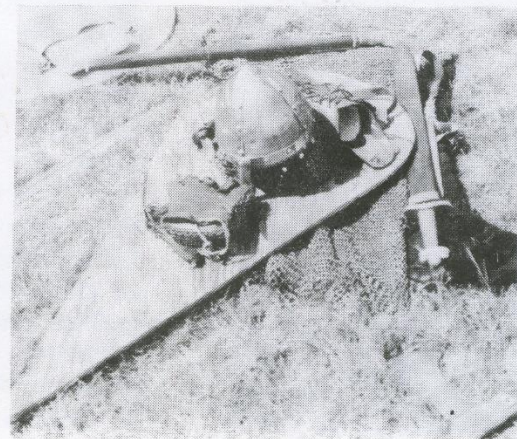
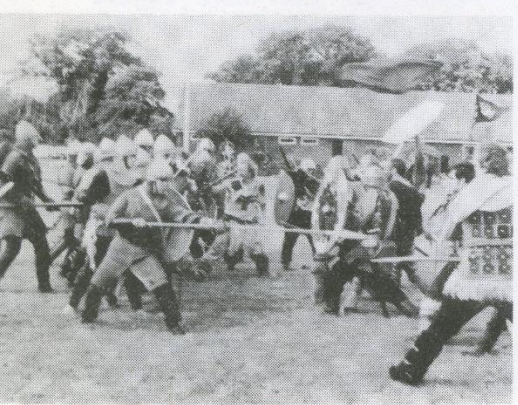


DARK AGE SOCIETY VISIT

AUGUST 2 1986



© MARK A. MITCHELS Photographer



# THE BATTLE OF HATCHLEY BARN (circa 1986 AD)

## VISIT BY THE DARK AGE SOCIETIES

The good people of Woodbridge hardly gave the visitors so much as a second glance, as they strode down the Thoro'fare, from the Red Lion to the Crown. A few children tugged a parental arm, to point out the unusual appearance of the revellers, but apart from that it was business as usual. It was as though the town had seen it all before. And so in a sense they had, for on Saturday, August 2nd 1986 the Anglo-Saxons returned to brandish their spears, display their armour and shock with their oaths.

The Federation of Dark Age Societies is a collection of enthusiasts all over the country who take pleasure in dressing up as Anglo-Saxons, and like nothing more than to stage battles of long ago - or more correctly, as they imagine battles to have been in that far off time. It needed a bit of polish, I think, because too many of the students of the Dark Ages resembled nothing more than the hippies who dominated the evening news at about the same time this year. But mixed in among the rather motley crowd were true lovers of the Early English, and they gradually brought order where before there had been close to chaos. A traffic warden at Cross Corner failed to see the humour of the situation when a rear-guard of Saxons departed from their pre-arranged route, but such officials have always existed and doubtless will be needed in the future too. The purpose of the progress was to draw attention to the Battle of Hatchley Barn which was to be fought later in the day.

A rugby field is a natural place to hold a fight between numbers of well matched males for the very grass itself has flourished from the blood which drips every Saturday. A crowd of interested spectators had gathered by about 3 pm, and as this was the first time the Society had produced an epic we had no way of knowing if the attendance was good or disappointing. I think we just about broke even.

The events of the afternoon commenced with a ritual of such complexity the spectators remained entirely ignorant of its significance throughout. A blanket clad soothsayer made his way around the field explaining what was to take place, but the wind and drunken laughter meant it got lost in the telling. It had to do with marriage alliance, insults and war. In the event, this intelligence was

to prove quite adequate for what followed.

A Saxon groom was discovered on his stag night, entertaining his fellows with earthy jokes, all of which produced thigh-slapping guffaws from those around him. This merriment was cut short when the bridal party were spotted on the 25 yard line. Instantly the tribal rituals of display were enacted and insults flew between the families. All hopes of a happy wedding were thus dashed, and resort was had to arms. This was quite unnecessary, for as the Professor of Archaeology at York University observed, the bride had been dead 200 years before the groom became a gleam in his dear mother's eye, such were the vagaries of costume. But it was too late for sartorial debate and soon the turf shuddered beneath the feet of warriors intent on family honour, revenge (and resurrection.) Great waves of infantry clashed before our eyes, and at times it did indeed seem that the great fyrd had returned. These were the best moments, and some thrilling combat surged between the posts. At times I wondered whether the Bayeux Tapestry had not been brought to life, as there seemed to be a lot of Normans on the field of battle, but I have to add that the fault may be mine, for many of the comatants spoke with great fervour of the accuracy of their outfits in the moments of calm, and so the battle was not upset by this.

Some of the Dark Age Society members explained that their uniforms are the result of many hours of work, linking chains to form a mail coat ("25,000 rings will make a short-sleeved hip-length byrnie" - and cost £40.50p "cheques payable to Wessex Svieter"). It was with a little difficulty one imagined grown men on winter evenings putting the final touches to their metal and leather creations, but the world of the enthusiast is easily mocked, and they all seemed to have a great time socially. At present the Dark Age Societies seem to be rather in the shadow of the more tightly organised (and choreographed) Sealed Knot, but these are early days (!) and the crowd-pulling potential of such groups is not to be taken lightly.

The Sutton Hoo Society was glad to act as hosts to the Societies, and hopes in the years to come they will continue to take an interest in the excavations on the site of the royal cemetery.

M.A.M.

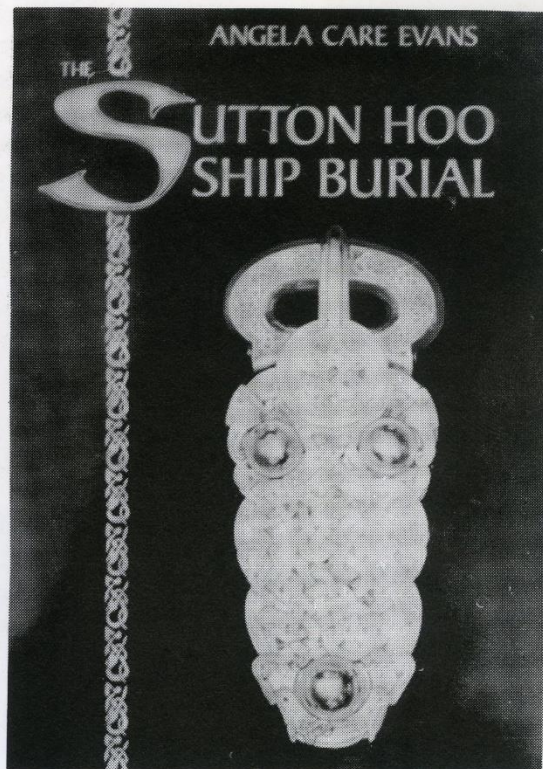
## THE SUTTON HOO SHIP BURIAL



For several years now, the flagship publication on sale in the kiosk on site was the British Museum Handbook to the site, by Rupert Bruce-Mitford, a former Director of excavations. This work had last been revised in 1979, and while comprehensive on the 1939 activity was inevitably unable to satisfy the curiosity of our many visitors about the work currently in progress.

All that has now changed. This new Handbook is excellent and very good value. The colour plates which were such a splendid feature of the earlier version have been retained, and so it is still possible to wonder at the sheer craftsmanship of the enamelled hook escutcheon from the large hanging bowl. You can keep all the other illustrations, for me this is the highest point of Anglo-Saxon art, and I would have been upset had it been replaced, or even rephotographed. But the book is possessed of an entirely fresh text, and here I must congratulate Angela Care Evans for the plan of her chapters. This is a book for guides. It contains a mass of information simply stated, and conclusions when drawn are clearly expressed. Here are all the answers to all the questions so often asked. The whole story of Mrs. Pretty inviting Basil Brown to excavate the ship has never been better told, and I am already using some of the anecdotes on my tours. The black and white illustrations have been changed in many cases, all for the better, and the reader is never at a loss to put text and artefact together.

The book should sell well on site, having a striking cover illustration and a reasonable selling price. For many years to come Angela Care Evans will have the mixed pleasure of



seeing and hearing her superb commentary reworked by plagiaristic hacks on a score of site tours and lectures in cold village halls. I hope she takes it as a compliment, for it is richly deserved.

M.A.M.



## SUTTON HOO - A VIEW FROM THE BOTTOM

Sutton Hoo does not look too welcoming at 8.00 on a cold, damp morning. The people around me looked none too keen either, yet they were all volunteers. Sutton Hoo depends, as all archaeological projects do, upon the help of such volunteers, mainly University Students (most studying archaeology); however, there were also a few local volunteers and even a rep. from the British Museum. Working on a dig, under the watchful eye of a few resident professionals teaches you more about archaeology than any number of lectures could, and this is why they had come.

In general, volunteers helped out on the dig for 3 weeks, progressing in that time from an archaeological 'Bull in a China Shop' to someone who could recognise a Neolithic arrow-head from glacially damaged flint chippings.

As you may know, the site was divided into 2 areas of excavation for the Summer's dig. Site 39, a Neolithic and Anglo-Saxon burial ground, was by far the most important of the two, since it was on farm land and the farmer was anxious to retrieve it to plant his winter crop. With this in mind it was left to the more experienced volunteers. All volunteers were initially set to work on Mound 2 - the less urgent sites; they de-turfed the mound (you'll be surprised how much turf comes off what seems to be a tiny hummock). Once this was done, the area was troweled and the soil sieved.

The finds were rather poor - with only a few broken arrowheads and flintflakes and a Neolithic meascraper (found by myself!). This may sound uninspiring, but it can be made all worth while when something interesting is found. Of course, there is always the residual hope that you might unearth a Helmet or a Sword, not that anyone did, but that didn't stop us hoping.

My first job was sieving - an interesting job, in that you find many things, but also a horrendously dirty job, the dust gets everywhere. At the end of a day's work I would look like a cross between the Sahara Desert and 'The Creature from the Black Lagoon', I even found that the insides of my ears were caked in dust. Fortunately, I was soon promoted to troweling Mound 2, digging-up innumerable cartridge cases - a legacy of World War II, when the Site was used as a live firing range (God knows what 30 ton tanks did to the site!) Such work was sometimes tedious, but it was an essential grounding in

the basis of practical archaeology. Things were to improve, however.

After a week of back-breaking work, you are considered sufficiently experienced to tackle more complex tasks - I soon found myself helping to survey the site. We hoped, for the first time, to store a 'picture' of the site on computer disc. Once all the necessary spot heights had been recorded, they could be 'fed' to the computer - producing a '3D', rotatable picture.

Finally, I reached Site 39 and I spent about a week there, making plans of various sections - recording soil type, finds and flint sizes etc. I was now able to excavate a small section - painstaking work involving a trowel not much bigger than a table knife. It was, however, fascinating and at last I was doing 'real' archaeology. This was by far the most interesting site, containing, as it did, the so-called 'sandmen' - the remains of bodies that were little more than impression in the sand. It was here that my most embarrassing moment occurred - whilst standing on the edge of the site, I felt the ground collapse under me and cover a foot of freshly trowelled ground - an archaeological disaster? No, fortunately I cleared it up quite quickly.

The dig left me with 3 of the most memorable weeks of my life. I was able to work on what is probably the most prestigious archaeological site in Britain and to meet and mix with an interesting and cosmopolitan group of enthusiastic volunteers - ranging from Israelis, Australians, Dutch, Irish and Americans (one was even a member of Harvard's rowing team).

We may have worked a 60 hour week, including Sundays, but there were compensations - namely the Sunday papers and as much food as you wanted (it is amazing what 20 tea bags brewed in a huge pot will do for flagging archaeologists). I will remember the dig, but I will also remember the people - Nena, our Israeli archaeologist cum cook, whose advice on cooking Spaghetti was - "If it sticks to the wall, it's ready!" and Colin, a student of Queen's College, Belfast, who had the misfortune to fall into a Mediaeval cess-pit at 2.00 a.m. during one of our parties.

I don't know if Martin Carver enjoyed this year's dig, but I certainly did!

Nick Johnson

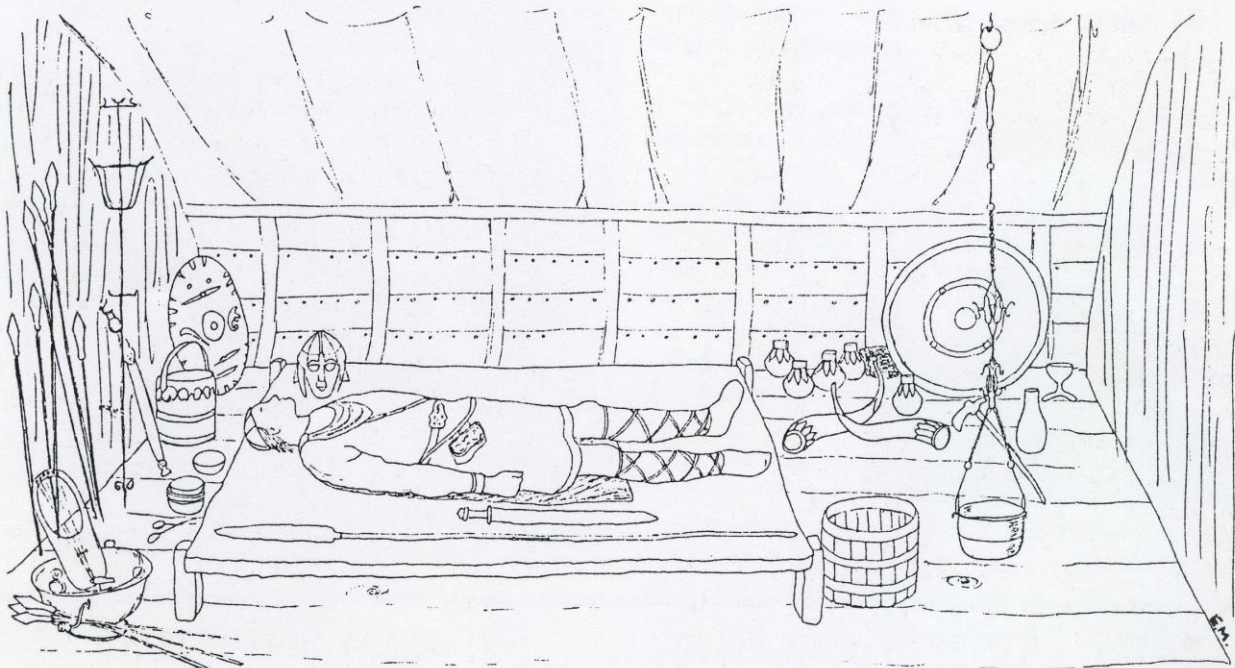
Nick is studying 'A' levels  
at Woodbridge School

## THE VIEW DOWN THE TRACK

I've been thinking about archaeology. The best time for this is in that period between arriving on site, opening the hut and sorting out the money, and then waiting for the first visitors to make their way down the field edge towards you. Ample warning of their approach is always given, if only by their wind-borne conversations, which are often most revealing. During this interval I gaze across the sacred acres and wonder about the work being done in the distance. In particular, I am struck by that familiar thought: What would the Anglo-Saxons make of the site now, complete with strangely-dressed persons, speaking a language which occasionally sounded familiar. This is all to the good, as our Anglo-Saxon forbears need to be remembered as other than sandmen, or splendid High Kings. They were brought to the Sutton Hoo site only at the start of their final journey, and lived lives of emotional richness, we hope, before doing so. But the point of my pre-tour meditations is more involved. It is that were an Anglo-Saxon to chance upon our present activities he would be utterly at a loss for explanation. Had that same brave warrior observed Basil Brown in 1939 I suspect the mystery would not have been as great, for Basil worked with a spade and wheelbarrow, assisted by a few simple labourers. Everything he was doing would make sense, although no doubt, give deep offence. The idea of treasure hunting would

hardly shock an Anglo-Saxon brought up on tales of Beowulf and fabulous hordes from within the earth. No, I wonder about the intrusion of Science: The infra-red surveys, the magnetometer readings and the pictures obtained without even disturbing the turf. It would represent not just progress, but a transformation into god. Perhaps though, the sheer magnitude of what was taking place would defy any explanation offered, and instead there would be outrage that what had been interred with reverential ceremony had been disturbed and violated. It is a view frequently expressed by visitors, and needs to be respected. If we protect the buried dead of 20th century world wars, and yet minutely examine what remains of those from earlier centuries, have we betrayed a sacred trust, unspoken, but less entered into? Is there a date beyond which we can go with impunity? Is there anything worth worrying about? I rather think there is, and in essence my opinion is formed by the idea of a returning Anglo-Saxon. I worry sometimes that perhaps the most telling piece of information about our age is that we open up his tombs, not for gold, but for knowledge. I know that sounds noble and impressive, but I wonder whether he would share my pride and certainty. And then like Alice I am brought back to the present, and I turn to greet the visitors . . .

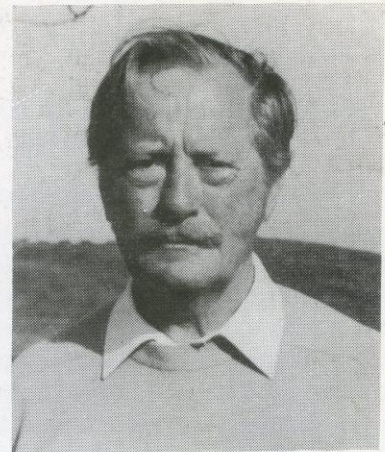
M.A.M.



SOME MEMBERS  
OF  
THE SUTTON HOO  
SOCIETY COMMITTEE



Malcolm Miles



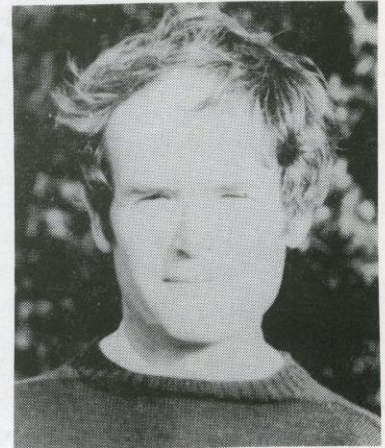
Robert Beardsley



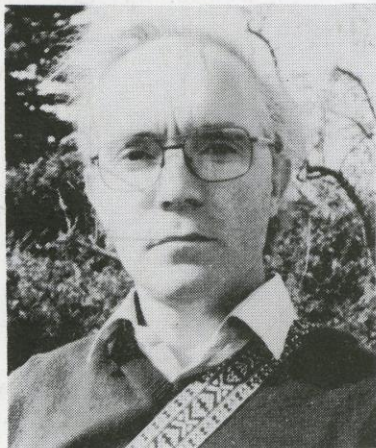
Robert Simper



Elizabeth Miles



Mark Mitchels



Mike Weaver



Peter Berry

**SUTTON HOO**  
Suffolk

**The burial ground  
of the Anglo Saxon  
Kings of East Anglia**

The Sutton Hoo ship burial, excavated near Woodbridge, Suffolk in 1939, is the most important and richest single archaeological discovery ever made in the British Isles. It was probably the funeral monument of Raedwald, King of the East Angles, who died in AD 625, and it is the first known monument to an English King.

TICKET NUMBER: SUTTON HOO - WOODBRIDGE, SUFFOLK

SITE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Sat/Sun 2-4pm May to September  
Guided Tours only. Admission: Adults £1 Children 50p  
CAR PARK AVAILABLE NEAR SITE, OR USE FERRY ACROSS THE RIVER DEBEN  
(Details of ferry service on Woodbridge quayside notice board)  
PARTY BOOKINGS: Hon. Secretary, 8 Queen's Head Lane, Woodbridge IP12 4ND