

the Basinghall Broadcasting Corporation production that's really free

# Radio Carbon

## CLOSE ENCOUNTERS

### OF THE ABSURD KIND

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CLOSE ENCOUNTER OF THE FIRST KIND

Receiving Notice

CLOSE ENCOUNTER OF THE SECOND KIND

3 Months Extension

CLOSE ENCOUNTER OF THE THIRD KIND

CONTRACT

A PARAMOUNT Concern

Produced by CLIFF HANGER Starring J. SEAPEACE  
Directed by B. HOBLEY (Nominated as Best Actor)  
Choreography by S. ROSKHAM  
Special Effects by B. DAVISON

ORIGINAL SOUNDTRACK ALBUM AVAILABLE ON  
ARCHIVAL RECORDS

Filmed in HURSTAVISION

ALL SEATS BOOKED UNTIL JULY 14th.

APRIL '78  
PROGRAMS

## MAKE A DATE WITH WONDERFUL RADIO CARBON

--THE SOUND INVESTMENT--

## CLOSE ENCOUNTERS

March 1978 will always be remembered as the month in which 25 members of the DUA were given their notice, foreshadowing the end of archaeology in the City as we know it. Here, for the record, is an unabridged version of this Easter Story, the passion, imminent crucifixion and temporary resurrection of the DUA.

Since October 1976, the DUA employed JCP staff on a project scheduled to run until April 14 1978. In August 1977, the CUA applied for a 25-person S.T.E.P. to replace it, and received favourable noises from their Inner Sanctum. Our application had not been officially confirmed by the MSC on the "deadline" of Feb 28, and news of the decision was deferred until the March Monthly Meeting. The information was not forthcoming on that date, but was promised on Friday 10. Alas no news was bad news, and no progress had been made by midday on Monday 13. Strike action was considered at a JCP meeting that afternoon, and frantic phone calls to Princethorpe followed.

On Tues 14 Brian Hobley reassured the JCP staff that he was doing everything in his power to get the STEP scheme implemented: if it fell through, all was not lost as he was negotiating with an unknown source for a sum of money to save the day. If neither option worked out, he offered to shoot himself, and promptly issued 25 members of staff with one month's written notice.

The meeting on 15th resulted in a letter being drafted by the staff, which pleaded with the heel dragging MSC to include our application for a STEP scheme on their Agenda for Tues 21 March. The letter was delivered by hand, and resulted in our case being aired. However, our application was rejected. The JCP staff then decided to take their 2-3 weeks holiday to which they were fully entitled, forthwith. This action would have provided a picture of the JCP-less DUA for anyone who wished to know what the Unit would look like after April 14, if the Unnamed Source backed out.

On Thurs 23, Tony Dyson chaired a meeting in which he brought the despondent diggers up to date with the latest non-events in what he accurately described as "this turgid narrative". Such hope as was left centred on the Source, uncontactable until the following Tuesday.

A miserable Easter concluded on March 30 when the CUA, after many a phone call, advised us to "be prepared for any eventuality". Strike action was only averted by the hope that the Friday talk-in with Hobley, Hebditch (for the Muse) and Davison and Mrs Jones (for the DOE) would save the day. An action committee, (The Basinghall Five) was elected and mandated to write to Brian Davison communicating to him our collective anxieties, and a last ditch deputation was sent with yet more letters to MSC.

In the end, the Godfather, our favourite Inspector, took the trouble to report back to us personally on Friday afternoon, when he and the CUA announced that the DOE would provide a 3 month contract for all the outgoing JCP staff. Furthermore, long term plans were being laid to ensure that current manning (?personing) levels would be maintained on a more permanent footing in future: the promise of a 3 year rolling programme sounded almost too good to be true after the recent chain of events, but a just reward for our persistent efforts.

We would like to convey our best wishes and crossed fingers to all who negotiate on our behalf in the difficult and delicate months ahead and hope that the outcome will not be a squalid sequel to that already encountered, but a result worthy of our cause, the Future of London's Past.

(cover design by PH, from an idea by JH & GM)

No prizes for guessing the first item on the agenda at the Monthly on the 4th April. The DoE's 3 month grant should give us the time to examine the funding for the JCP staff for the rest of the financial year, leading to the eventual merging of the 25 JCPs with the 27 contracted staff, and, ultimately, parity with the Museum. Mike and Father John will be called in as soon as negotiations start. Meanwhile, any vacancies which may arise will be filled (probably by Old Hands) to maintain staff levels.

Mr Flude will be allowed to remain as the JCP rep., without portfolio. The officers reported that Tony had completed his Aldermanbury study (Fri. April 10th!) and that the Riverside Wall Report -C.Hill et al- will be ready on Thurs. Phillip found a C10th black Rattus rattus in St Magnus, which had once been to York somewhat earlier, and his girls still find horn cores on Wednesdays. Peter Boyd had a short month & muscular spasms while Jane and Simon tackle Via Lactis. Peter Marsden has found two stone buildings contemporary with the Forum in the late 1st century, and Sarah has made excellent copies of the Hodgensia marvelled at last month. Mike now has a drying cabinet and the largest shoe report ever published. The Basement is now full up, so the CUA promised to take up the matter of storage space elsewhere forthwith. Clive is back from hospital and is enjoying the Aldgate pot, while Chris Green has been drafting a constitution for draughtsmen.

The publication programme was discussed, and will be even more so at the Section Heads meeting next Tues, along with Bastion 6. Apart from a never ending round of meetings, Barn Hobley arrived at the End of Roman Britain while visiting Durham recently -Richard Reece will explain all on 25th April.

The excavation, restoration and landscaping of Cripplegate may begin in the summer -could be a few jobs there. Finally, the DUA has just been awarded a showcase in the galleries of the Museum: we take over the cabinet formerly occupied by a ventriloquist's dummy.

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#### INSITE

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Progress on Steve's site suffered as a result of recent traumas. However, life on the GPO is rapidly getting down to natural, and over half the area has already reached the Hadrianix. The tea-spoons of Val, Ron, Pauline, Pat, the Jackies and new Brenda have been returned to the mess hut now that the excavation of the 200 best recorded stake-holes in Western Europe is complete. Jenny Angela and Dame Edna are all pitting, Kieron is amusing Julie, Simon has had some help with his pot-washing, and Clare won the Find of the Month award: a plumb bob sealed 'neath the floor of a Roman building.

Over the other side of town, Father John, Lez & David have picked up an impressive 8' wide lump of Roman wall, standing 5' above sandstone plinth level, complete with internal and external faces, tile course and bits of bank. They should have about three more weeks before moving to pastures new, having completed an historic multi-part section across the City defences.

On the riverfront, Louise has engineered a minor miracle virtually single handed: her untiring winter site-watching of the Fresh Wharf development has provided her with no less than 41 sections through the archaeology. Features encountered included a piled chalk raft very similar to the BC75 River wall, 2 separate phases of timber built Roman quay, Saxon banks, and medieval revetments, walls, buildings and lanes.

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#### TRACE ELEMENTS

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Ken Powell has stopped being a groupie for Blondie, and now surveys for the Transport Trust: its a great job, taking our Ken around the historic railways and canals of southern England. He's still prepared to remain as captain of the DUA's Aqua Ducks every Wednesday!

Bronzed Bobby Bell is just back from Oman (see RC4) and is living it up in Norfolk.

Orpah, the Assistant Field Officer at St Aines is preparing the Friends Burial site (Live Stiffs) report- see London Archaeol., summer Issue. She's promised to give us a quick seminar on this most important site soon.

## A STEP IN THE WRONG DIRECTION?

Now that the dust has settled it's a good time to review the effects of the Job Creation Scheme for the D.U.A. Four J.C.P.'s, Kevin, Julie, Ian and Clare went to see the Central Unit of the Job Creation Scheme where they had a very friendly and informative reception which has enabled us at last to appreciate the Manpower Services Commission viewpoint.

The facts are these:- S.T.E.P. was a tightening up of the J.C.P. scheme and not the liberalisation that we had been lead to believe. Therefore the M.S.C. had set up a target population for whom the scheme was aimed. These were the long term unemployed, especially the young and those in deprived areas. The ultimate aim of the scheme is to place people in permanent not temporary jobs, apparently so far the M.S.C. success rate is 80%. Sponsors can cash in on the free labour to train the J.C.P.'s but should have the potential to employ that person if things work out. The aim is therefore not to promote socially useful projects but to alleviate hardship due to unemployment.

By now it must be apparent that the D.U.A. did not fulfill these conditions in the past and made a fatal mistake in misreading the situation so that the S.T.E.P. application was pitched at the wrong level. Firstly, most people at the D.U.A., by virtue of their education, were not long term unemployed and would have a reasonable expectation of employment elsewhere. Secondly, M.S.C. didn't see the City as a deprived area. Thirdly, a continuing scheme could be seen to be propping up the D.U.A. and preventing the very thing the M.S.C. hopes to promote i.e. the creation of permanent jobs: in fact the D.U.A. proposed to increase the number of temporary jobs to 35!

The D.U.A. should consider that unless the above conditions can be met in future it should not entertain a S.T.E.P. scheme. Surely there are moral obligations not to divert funds needed to alleviate hardship nor to employ temporary workers unless there is at least the potential to employ them full time at the end of their scheme.

Good things to come out of the scheme? 18 months free digging for the D.U.A. and the acknowledgement by the D.O.E. that we need an integral team of 60.

The letter written by the J.C.P.'s to the Times last summer accurately stated the case that the J.C.P. scheme was being used by the D.O.E. to run archaeology at the expense of permanent jobs.

K.F.

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## BYE BYE BRIDEWELL BYE BYE

Bridewell was finally put to bed on Easter monday under a cover of several hundred cubic yards of Hoggin. No longer will the cells echo to the creek of collective cerebral grapplings with the Daily Mirror quizword and the leaks in the roof are unlikely to be improved by the eight piles that are planned to go through it. After the big push of the photographic clean the site looked like becoming a little draggy but as living proof that old cliches never die the only surviving Tudor surface was found to run under the spoil heap. Long-term planning went further up the creek when Ian noticed a revetment in the section and the sinking feeling was only added to when Peter Marsden identified it as re-used boat timbers. It was finally salvaged on the last day using Canon Greenwell techniques with John S. at the helm after he had made quite shore that the section didn't collapse in the process. So despite bitter complaints by Paulo at the number of people that were skiving off holiday Easter was spent in the good company of the COLAS stalwarts still scraping scouring etc. away ruining Julies planned chocolate biscuit holiday and leaving Derek spending most of his waking hours asleep.

D.G.

No.4: THE PHONOLITHS

by Staff Reporter Simon Scagell

No, this isn't the title of a Science Fiction movie, but in October 1974 I went on a package tour to Ethiopia. It flew from Heathrow to Asmara the largest city in the north. We only stayed one day, just long enough to see some of the surrounding mountains, the mosque and the Coptic (monophysite) cathedral with its stone bells (phonoliths). These were blocks of stone, presumably with a high metal content. As they are in the courtyard one could hit them and they 'boinggg', 'clangg' or tinkle, according to pitch.

Next day we flew in a war-surplus C-47 to Aksum. Here are numerous tall obelisks, and the cathedral of 1665 which is built on the foundations of a 4th century cathedral, founded when the Axumite Empire adopted christianity.

Next day we flew in another 'antique' to Makale which is a trading centre for salt, which is mined near the shores of the Red Sea and transported by camel trains 50-100 strong. By the time it arrives in Makale it is covered in flies, filth and dirt. Luckily it's used mainly for currency.

That afternoon we drove a few miles to see a small country church. It is rectangular in plan, which suggests an old date. Despite a thorough search by the guide, the priest and keys were nowhere to be found. So we were left to improvise tunes on the phonoliths and watch the nearby waterfall, about 40ft. broad and 250ft. high.

Another church was next days objective. The monophysite church of Abraha-Atsba at Wokro is one of Ethiopias hundred or so 'rock-cut' churches which are carved from rock in the manner of a very intricate cave (with all the usual architectural details) instead of being built in the normal 'stone-upon-stone' technique. The Ethiopian guide said it was 4th century, but western authorities think about 1000 years. Crawling, juddering and bouncing along the track to Makale it was obvious why we flew to most places, as the roads in Ethiopia are abominable and we'd not have time to see much!

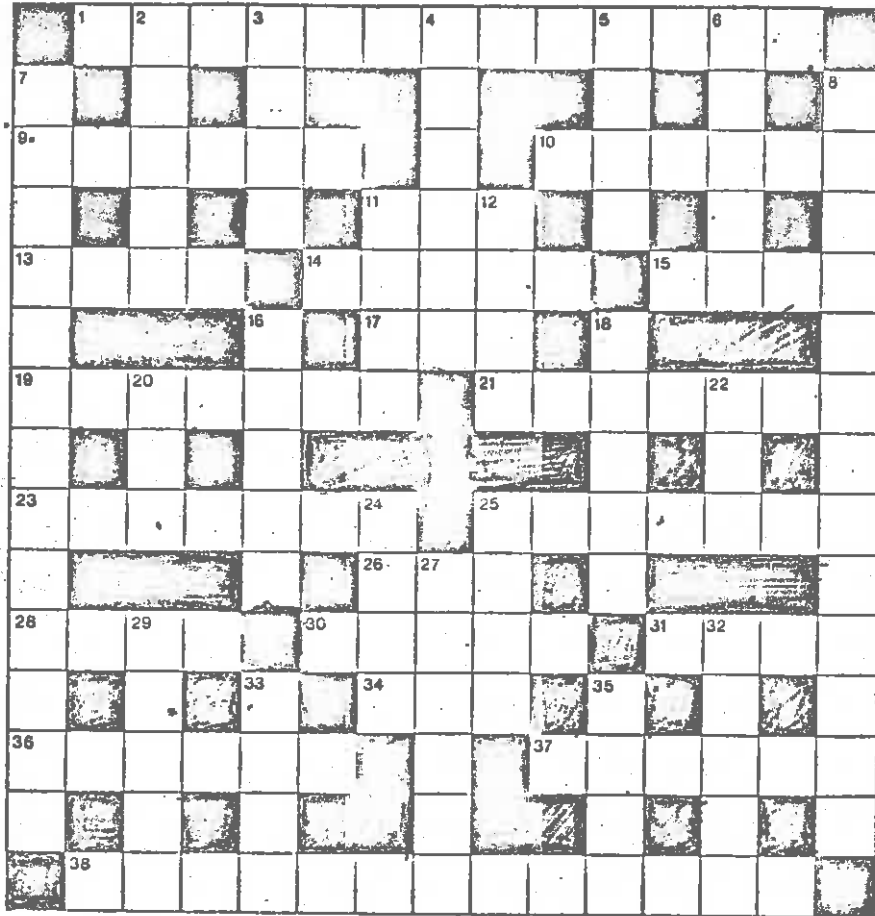
I was glad we flew to Lalibela next day. The old C-47 touched down on an airstrip of beaten earth and dirt. Lalibela has a dozen rock-cut churches, the largest, Medhare Alem is 100ft. long, rectangular and 13th century.

We flew next day to Gondar through the Semien mountains. Several of the peaks were above our plane, but as the atmosphere was so clear it was perfectly safe.

After Gondar and its 16-18th century palaces and fortified medieval monastery we flew across the source of the Blue Nile, Lake Tana to Bahar Dar. A boat trip on the lake next morning took us to a round church of the 17th century which was lavishly decorated with frescoes of saints, apostles and other ecclesiastical 'what-nots'. In the afternoon we were driven to the Tissisat falls over 1000ft. wide and 200-300ft. deep.

Addis Ababa was our next stop for a day, but as it was founded in the 19th century, it lacks interest, unlike the rest of Ethiopia. We flew in a DC-6 (still propellers, but a bit more modern) to Dire Dawa. Not far from the city are some caves once inhabited by ancient man. We drove out to visit the most accessible one on a dirt track road, the last half mile was on foot. We forded a shallow stream and as my feet were sweating this was a bonus. The cave was near the top of a 500ft. hillock. The hillocks sides were boulders and although it was steep we clambered up them. The chief feature of the cave was a hunting scene and I asked the guide roughly what age 10,20,30,000 years?'Prehistoric' was all she knew. The animals in the scene were about one inch, roughly the same as the hunters - all in black or grey. From this inadequate description can any body give me any information?

Next day we drove to Harar a walled city with a predominantly Muslim population. We flew back to Addis Ababa in another DC-6, and the following day a modern jet of Ethiopian Airways took us back to London, and me to the misery of censuses and surveys in Somerset House.



**CI4 CROSSWORD NO. 3**

compiled by Jim

With one exception, a single word is the clue to 1, 4, 7, 8, 9, 11 down, 28, 30, 32 and 38. The exception requires the addition of a single letter to that word.

**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. (5-5, 3)
- 9. (6)
- 10. How Mercia could become a province of the USSR? (6)
- 11. Can be black but with liquor becomes sweet as well! (3)
- 12. Where bad news could not be told. (4)
- 14. The old boy's directions lead inevitably to the possession of a large corporation! (5)
- 15. She came back to eat - with Noddy?(4)
- 17. Commercial alternative (3)
- 19. The stream I diverted to qualify for Olympia. (7)
- 21. A hesitant Hobbley describes a native of Central Italy quite accurately. (7)
- 23. Despite their name they are too strong for 38. (7)
- 25. Confusion at Natal could land you in USA. (7)
- 26. A sea-going way. (3)
- 28. (4)
- 30. (5)
- 31. Food - for eight? (4)
- 34. Common to potatoes - and tomatoes! (3)
- 36. A serial which involves the Promised Land but excludes Palestine. (6)
- 37. Spanish Order of Knighthood - bestowed on successful con-men? (6)
- 38. (6, 7)

**CLUES DOWN**

- 2. If you ever have been it was your own fault! (5)
- 3. The King Emperor and the French give rise to anger and irritation. (4)
- 4. (6)
- 5. A true Scot feels undressed without it! (4)
- 6. See 27. (5)
- 7. (4-6, 3)
- 8. (6, 7)
- 11. (4)
- 12. He appears in all places authorised to admit ticket-holders. (4)
- 16. The cut flower retains it's natural colour! (5)
- 18. Was this the Greek word for shekels? (5)
- 20. Pig-stealer - 7's brother? (3)
- 22. Haunt of lawyers - and diggers! (3)
- 24. But this Spanish car does have more than one! (4)
- 25. If you can you are! (4)
- 27 and 6. The female of the future - Heaven forbid! (6, 5)
- 29. Comb flavour and favour. (5)
- 32. (5)
- 33. Descriptive of the fast time in which you have reached here! (4)
- 35. French copper. (4)

# TALES FROM THE CRYPT

You saw the film at the CBA churches Conference: now read the book....  
SPECIAL FEATURE BY MERRY MORGAN

At long last the DUA can now proudly boast at having its very own graphic, gruesome and gynaeological expose by Dr Calvin Wells—soon to make the headlines in Medical History....(or some other reputable volume within the medical world).

For this long awaited honour, thanks are due to Gertrude, wife of .....?and GP075 skeleton 5061/62. Who in the prime(22-24) of her child bearing years surrendered her pregnant body to the archaeological and medical world of the 20th century. As it happened young little Gertrude was due to give birth to her first child on or about the C13th/C14th A.D. —when complications arose....

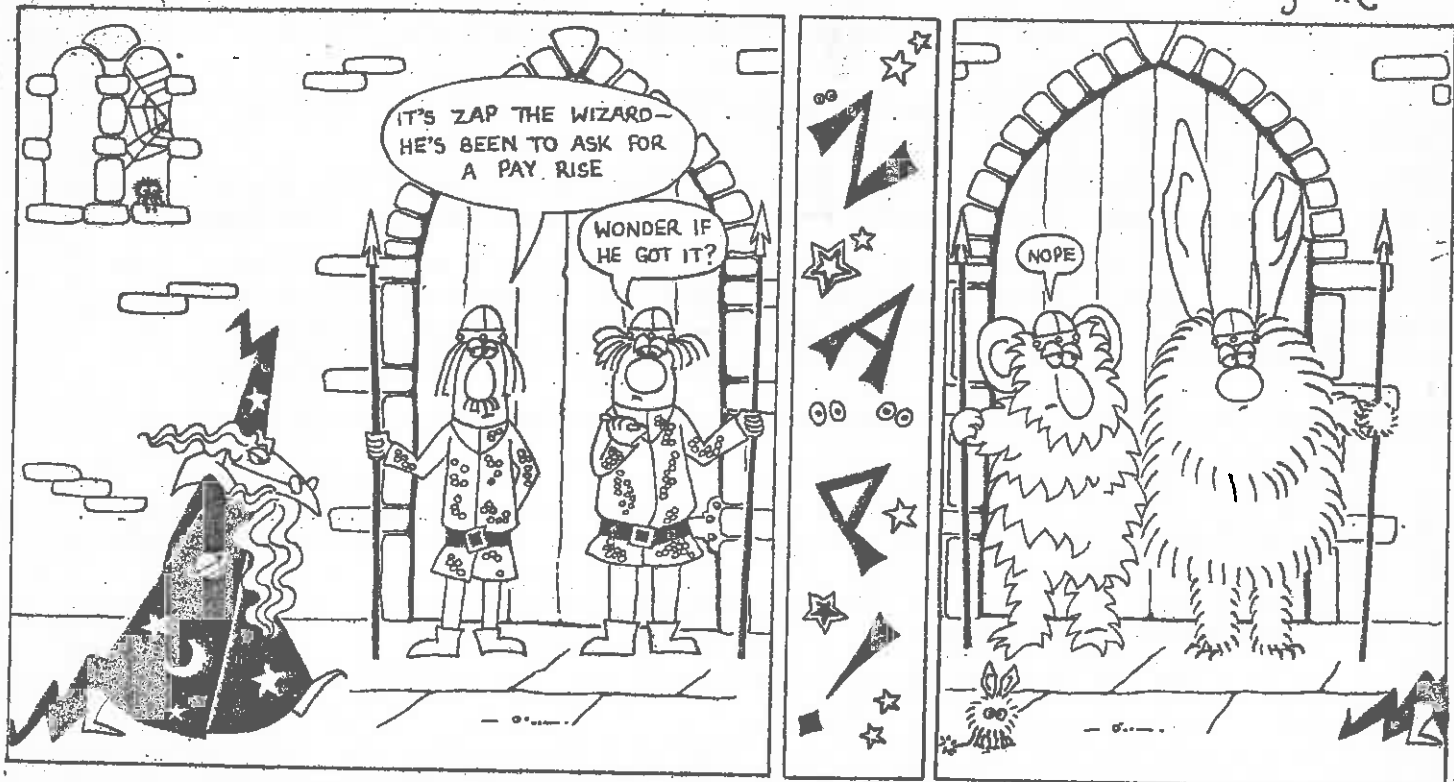
But wait, before our Gertrude's sad fate is revealed to the masses, it seems only Christian to shed a bit of light on who our heroine really was.

If it weren't for her enormous paunch, you'd probably think she wasn't a she at all, but a he. Quite butch really. But it's all got to do with the balance of hormones you know, and though her voice had broken, her beard probably needed a trim, her hips were too small, and most likely enjoyed the regular piss-up in the pub on Saturday nights, she was a she and definitely preggers: from the looks of things, Jr. was going to be a big one—9-10. bs, the doctor says.

Alas and alack our poor Gertrude was planted in the churchyard of St. Nick's after suffering through "many hours or even days in labour, her uterine contractions had been powerful enough to force part of her head down into the pelvic brim but had been unable to push it through into the lower part of the pelvis ... This inability was probably because of the onset of 'secondary inertia' — an exhausted uterine muscle which could no longer carry on the struggle to force a large baby through an inadequate pelvis. Death from maternal exhaustion would then have been the result", according to Calvin. A woeful tale indeed!

## Carbon Castle

by Troll



## BASEMENT TAPES

Penny's Processors have been bricking up their basement, Sandra is back from Gay Paris, and Frances found the coin that Canute spent in Milk Street. Paulo has almost finished the drawings for the Triangle report, Jon Jon and Alan found a Tudor street near Tudor Street, and Chris Unwin is a virtuoso mandolinist. Chris Green has a new toy, Dave Fonz Parfitt a new pair of jeans. Pam has pinched Messies desk, and Jacqui and Clive found the RB site they had been digging in Surrey (where?) had been invaded by bulldozers.

The discovery of a sherd depicting an unusual biped has been made midst the New Fresh Pottery. The vessel, of colour coated ware possibly from the Central Gaulish area, is of the hunting scene type; animals chasing each other interspersed with foliage. The creature in question has two back legs, a curling tail, an elongated body with a rounded head curving up towards the rim of the vessel. Chris said it was 'orrible, Merry said "corrrr" and Diana wondered where its face was. Natalie (of Buck House fame) thought it looked like an academic's, while Trevor suggested that it had 'get up and go'.

Suggestions as to the evolution of this type of animal would be welcome.

## CALENDAR DATES

### APRIL:

Mon 10...Historical Documents and Archaeology by Tony Dyson  
Tues 18...Timber & the Archaeologist by Jane Squirrel and Gustav Milne  
Sat 22/ Sun 23.. Southampton Conference "Towns 800 - 1200"  
Tues 25..Town & Country in Late Roman Britain by Richard Reece

### MAY:

Thurs 4..Finds Dept. by Mike Rhodes  
Fri 10..Scientific Dating by Kevin Flude et al.

All lectures in the Basement or at Soton University

## STANDARD DEVIATIONS

C14... Messers Roskams and Marsden are to be congratulated on their performance at the LAMAS Conference on Sat 28th March: the photographix also did us proud. The DUA then put in an appearance at the London Kiln Study Group last weekend when DG and JAS did a Bridewell. Next stop Southampton (see above); for details of this important session see JAS.

C14... Ed "Mr Matrix" Harris is back in town, and may appear in Broadcasting Ho any day now. And while we're on the subject of Superstars, best behaviour on April 14th, cos Sunny Boyd's showing Messers Musty, Dimbelby and Dr Jewewl the sites.

C14... The Inner London Unit have 4 weeks to dig a c. 5 x 15m hole in the rampart nr Tower Hill tube: they're at it seven days a week.

C14... All newly contracted staff will be eligible to join IPCS, your friendly Civil Service Union. The relevant forms will be around on the 15th April.

C14... The Flude's delightfully advertised soiree was a decided success: the fusion of live music (from a variety of hands) in a penthouse suite was a winning combination. Dame Julia led the po-going in classic style whilst her hubby Kevin made an ideal DJ in his DJ. The stairs look much clearer now.

The APRIL PROGRAM was produced and Directed by Stanley Baldwin, aided and abetted by KF, DG and GM. Additional material was provided by CM, MM, BS, SS and many many more. The sound was mixed by KnJF, JH & GM and special thanks to CU and PH for the artwork.

If you'd like to appear on the MAY PROGRAM contact Stanley at Broadcasting House 71 Basinghall St. Today!!!

RADIO CARBON MAKES SOUND SENSE