



# ASPROM

Association for the Study and Preservation of Roman Mosaics

British section of AIEMA (l'Association Internationale pour l'Étude de la Mosaïque Antique)

Charity Registered in England and Wales, No. 802883

Website: [www.asprom.org](http://www.asprom.org)

## AGM and Symposium on Roman Mosaics

Saturday 3rd December 2022

To be held online via Zoom (free download from [zoom.us](https://zoom.us))

### Programme

#### Annual General Meeting (ASPROM members only)

The agenda and Zoom link were sent to members with the Autumn Newsletter.

11.00 am Annual General Meeting (sign in from 10.45 am)

1.00 pm Break (50 minutes)

#### Symposium on Roman Mosaics (all welcome!)

The Zoom link was sent to ASPROM members with the Symposium programme. If you are not a member, but would like to receive the joining details, please email [WestgateR@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:WestgateR@cardiff.ac.uk).

The Symposium is free and there is no need to book. However, we would be grateful for donations to support the work of ASPROM. To donate, please go to [http://www.asprom.org/news/winter\\_symposium\\_2022.html](http://www.asprom.org/news/winter_symposium_2022.html).

1.50 pm Welcome and introduction (sign in from 1.45 pm).

2.00 pm Peter Guest, *New light on the Hinton St Mary mosaic and its place in Roman Britain*

2.45 pm Q&A

3.00 pm Simon Elliott, *A travelogue through the mosaics of Roman Algeria*

3.45 pm Q&A

4.00 pm Break (30 minutes).

4.30 pm Stephen Cosh, *Real and re-imagined mosaics at the real and re-imagined Roman villa at Hadspen, Somerset (The Newt in Somerset)*

5.15 pm Q&A

5.30 pm Closing remarks

## Abstracts

### **Peter Guest, *New light on the Hinton St Mary mosaic and its place in Roman Britain***

The mosaic from Hinton St Mary is one of the most celebrated and iconic survivals from Roman Britain. The central roundel features the bust of a man with the Christian Chi-Rho symbol behind his head, which most scholars have concluded is one of the earliest representations of Jesus Christ from the ancient world, and probably the first to be found on a mosaic. Previous excavations in the 1960s at the site and later geophysical surveys suggested the mosaic belonged to a much larger complex of buildings described as a Romano-British ‘courtyard villa’, perhaps home to a wealthy Christian family. In 2020, the British Museum initiated a research and training project to test these previous interpretations and 2 seasons of archaeological excavation have taken place at Hinton St Mary, combined with new geophysical surveys. This talk will present some of the most important results of this on-going project, which demonstrates that much of what we thought we knew about Roman Hinton St Mary is wrong and will need to be rewritten.

### **Simon Elliott, *A travelogue through the mosaics of Roman Algeria***

Dr Simon Elliott guides and lectures in Roman Algeria and frequently visits some of the most impressive sites in the Roman world there, including the key cities of Setif, Djemila, Constantine, Timgad and Cherchelle. Here can be found some of the most amazing and rarely seen mosaics in the Roman Empire, which will all be discussed in this presentation.

### **Stephen Cosh, *Real and re-imagined mosaics at the real and re-imagined Roman villa at Hadspen, Somerset (The Newt in Somerset)***

Recent excavations at the known villa site at Hadspen (previously called Bratton Seymour) exposed two mosaics, since lifted and now displayed in a modernistic site museum. A re-imagined villa, based on the design of the real thing, has been constructed nearby as a visitor attraction for The Newt in Somerset complex. This spectacular ‘Villa Ventorum’ has replicas of the genuine mosaics and others inspired by mosaics in the area flooring several of the rooms.