

## **News Items for 2008**

### **20th September 2008: Medieval Face Jug from Rothesay**

A series of excavations within the footprint of the former Council Buildings, Castle Street, Rothesay have been ongoing throughout September. The site is of critical importance in understanding the evolution of early Rothesay, lying as it does adjacent to Rothesay Castle. While much of the site has been seriously impacted by the 19<sup>th</sup> century construction of the Council Buildings, a varied mixture of medieval and post-medieval activity has been excavated. Of particular note is the range of fine medieval pottery recovered, including fragments of a shouldered jug with a bearded face ornamenting the bridge spout and three strap-handles – such face jugs are commonly attributed late thirteenth to fourteenth century dates and are rare from west coast Scottish sites.

### **29th August 2008: Our new Offices**

We are delighted to announce our move into refurbished offices at Unit 8 Ashgrove Workshops. Continued growth had put pressure on our office space to the point where we undertook the refurbishment for improved office space of another commercial unit, adjacent to our existing stores (Unit 7). This has enabled the relocation of our Equipment and Samples stores to Unit 10 with Laboratory space, Artefact stores and the Staff Room moved into Unit 7 (which inter-connects with the new office in Unit 8). All our contact details remain the same except that mail should be addressed to Unit 8 rather than Unit 10.

### **2nd May 2008: Roman Glass in an Iron Age Souterrain**

Fragments of glass from the Iron Age Souterrain excavated at Cowiehall Quarry, Stirling have been identified as Roman vessel glass fragments. They are probably elements of an amber coloured collared jar which would suggest a late first century date for its manufacture. These join the sherds of central Gaulish samian, from an f37 bowl of second century date, previously identified from the same fills. The presence of exotic Roman material within native Iron Age contexts reinforces the cultural impact of Rome on the land they occupied.

### **19th April 2008: Welcome to new colleagues**

Our on-going project commitments have allowed us to appoint two new colleagues to posts as Archaeologists. Both Kevin Paton and Diane Gorman have joined us from HAPCA, after completing contracts on the M74 extension in Glasgow. Diane Gorman, a past colleague, is a graduate from the University of St Andrews who has worked with the NTS, GUARD and SUAT. She is to initially join the field teams working on the White Cart Flood Prevention Scheme. Kevin Paton, a graduate from the Universities of Strathclyde and Glasgow, has previously worked for Cotswold Archaeology and has joined our team working at Dunfermline Abbey.