

Worthing Archaeological Society

News sheet

April – May 2016

Fieldwork - Goblestubbs Dig

This Easter WAS will be taking to the woods to start an excavation of the east Goblestubbs enclosure for the first time since 2006. The dig will run from Mon 28th March to Sun 3rd April, with Mon 4th to Wed 6th as contingency days for finishing the work. For all those signed up to participate in this project, just a few logistical details.

Due to the access provisions for the site the start of the day will be a 9am meet at the Slindon shed. This will allow some cars to be left, giving us more room around the site and importantly ensure arrival at site will be as safe as possible. The turn off the main road to the site is sharp with very little room for more than four cars. The single gate will have to be opened by either Gordon or Amie and then shut and re-locked. Arriving together will make sure everyone keeps moving away from the dual-carriage way turning and neither Director gets extra exercise over the two weeks running up and down the main drive (at least ½ a mile one way !!!!).

We will finish the day's work around 3:30/ 4 and always the day's digging will be dependent on the weather. For anyone who wishes to leave the site at lunchtime or before the end of the day this will be possible, but either Amie or Gordon will need to open the gate for you.

This project will in many ways be difficult. There has recently been some clearance in the part of the wood that we will be digging in. This has left lots of branches and debris covering stumps of felled trees. Across the site the trip hazards are many, varied and sometimes hard to see. Travelling across the site will potentially be perilous and as a health and safety note vigilance for rogue stumps will be a must. To make the site as safe as we can there will be two separate sites running during the dig with

their own access point from the larger pathways. These will be indicated on arrival.

Similarly the digging itself will be challenging. The trenches are going to be deep with steps being required the further we go. As such we will be running a team system in the trenches. This will ensure that the trenches will not have too many working in them at once and that everyone will get frequent breaks from what will be very hard work. This system will be fully explained during the onsite briefing.

There will be parking on site at the top of the lane near to the loos. If everyone could park on the grass verge past the loos and the log stacks that would be great as this will prevent congestion on that turning.

Looking forward to seeing you all on site hopefully in great weather!!!

Also look out for possible weekend work on the site in the near future. This would be to back-fill the old trenches of previous digs and we would welcome any and all volunteers. It is likely that we will return to the site in the second half of August.
Amie and Gordon

If you haven't already signed-up, please contact Liz on liz.13lane@gmail.com or 01903 501422, until Saturday March 26th, when Connie takes over: connieshirley1@aol.com or 07971287784

The Field Unit Forum, held in February, covered a great deal of ground – reviewing past and future activities, and with lots of ideas. Many thanks to all who took part.

Finds Processing

Throughout the year Finds are processed at 9.30am, twice-monthly, at our Slindon base, led by Gill Turner.

The next dates are Thursdays 7th & 21st April, 5th & 19th May

If you are interested and not already involved, please contact Gill.

Ggturner@aol.com

This from our archives – Finds Processing in the brick shed at Slindon.....



Surveying

The focus of Friday activities is on keeping our skills going and enjoying being out in the open air.

WAS Surveying over the last two months has been done at Fontwell, near Whiteways (with Secrets of the High Woods) and at Slindon Field 20. There will also be work to do at Goblestubbs before – and during - the dig. Last summer some of our Surveyors joined in the excavation of a WW2 Polish Air Force Hurricane which crashed at Saddlescombe, and were to be seen in the last item on 'Digging for Britain' on Thursday March 17th.

If you would like to be involved in Surveying, email Connie on connieshirley1@aol.com so that you can be added to the distribution list for the activities. Or if you have a project where you would like some help, send the project plan for approval to Keith Bolton:

keithbolton14@gmail.com and he can instruct the team on what is required.

Help with a Project Plan can now be found on the WAS website under Policy Documents.

<http://www.worthingarch.co.uk/project-designs-and-reports>

Lecture Programme

In the Worthing Library Lecture Theatre at 7.30pm.

April 12

Connie Shirley and colleagues will give an illustrated lecture on the Lambley's Lane Lime Kiln excavations carried out by members of WAS over a period of two years and how the

Sussex Lime Kilns played a part in the industrial history of Sussex.

October 11th

Amie and Gordon will report on the Goblestubbs excavation.

WAS Study Days

Saturday June 25th Soils Study Day

At the Downs Barn

See flyer at the end of the Newsletter

Saturday August 6th A Day of Survey Training

at the Downs Barn

See flyer at the end of the Newsletter

2pm Sunday 18th September 2016

Learning about the Building Stones of Sompting (St Mary) and Lancing (St James the Less)

Churches

Led by David Bone

Meet at Sompting Church.

Free to members (the churches appreciate a small individual donation)

We need to restrict this to 20 participants so if you would like to attend please contact

Jacqueline Lake by email:

jacqueline_lake@hotmail.com or phone (02903) 215671.

Saturday September 24th 10am – 4pm.

Making Sense of Monuments: Landscape Archaeology In Sussex (rescheduled from March)

Education Room, Worthing Museum

David McOmish

(Historic England: Research Group)

We will never know how many childhoods were blighted by the forced march to visit 'another henge' or even worse the dreaded 'tumuli' but for some of us it has led to a lifelong fascination with the grand earthwork schemes left to us by prehistoric communities. We have all seen prehistoric hill forts or Bronze age barrow cemeteries - they are unavoidable when walking along the South Downs ridge for

example. If you look on any Ordinance Survey map, you will see frequent references to 'earthworks' and it is clear that through time these places have become important landmarks, guiding us through the landscape and providing fixed points in a world undergoing rapid change.

The study day will look at the surviving prehistoric monuments in Sussex and further afield too and we will discuss their origins, why they were built and used and how they relate to the wider landscape.

The cost of the Day Course is £25 for members and £30 for non-members.

Coffee and tea will be provided.

If you would like to attend, please contact Jacqueline Lake by email:

jacqueline_lake@hotmail.com or tel: (01903)215671.

[Saturday 26th November 2016 from 10a.m. to 4p.m. Medieval Pottery Day](#)

Duncan Brown

Curator, Museum of Southampton
(Research Fellow Southampton University)

Education Room, Worthing Museum
The day will comprise an extended introduction to the development of pottery through the medieval and post-medieval periods, a practical sorting session and a concluding talk on what we can learn from studying pottery.

The cost of the day course is £25 for members and £30 for non-members.

Coffee and tea will be provided.

If you would like to attend, please contact Jacqueline Lake by email:

jacqueline_lake@hotmail.com
or tel: (01903) 215671.

[AGM and Lecture by Tom Domett](#)

The AGM was chaired by our President, John Mills. Keith Bolton summarised the past year's activities, and mentioned some future plans. Connie Shirley presented the Treasurer's Report, audited by Bob Turner. Patricia Leming and Theresa Griffiths were voted on to the Committee. John Green and Ian Robertson, who have stood down from the Committee, were thanked for all their contributions over several years, as was Gill

Turner who has handed over the planning of Study Days to Jacqui Lake.
(Since the AGM, Margaret Maroney has resigned from the Committee – many thanks to her too for all she has done for WAS.)

Tom Domett talked about the 3-year [Petworth Project](#), which he led. 120 Volunteers were involved – several of them WAS Members. Desk-based research – historic mapping, aerial photography and Lidar - and Field Survey, Documentary Research, Geoarchaeological survey and Geophysics were areas included in the Project.

The aim was to uncover Petworth Park as it was before it was mostly obliterated by Capability Brown over a period of 12 years from 1752.

In Medieval times the Park was densely populated, it was a very busy landscape – the Project has only scratched the surface of all this.

For example, the site of part of Tillington village – taken into the Park – was evidenced by chimney pots and clay pipes found on the site of former houses.

On Lawn Hill the site of a substantial building of 2 or 3 storeys was found, with many rooms. 1100kg of CBM was taken from the site, along with jetons, coins and a bronze spur – in the demolition rubble. There were 1177 sherds of pottery, 90% from between 1500 and 1600, covering a wide range of regions and styles. What this building was is still a mystery – it would be lovely if it had been a banqueting House for Henry VIII, or even the predecessor to Petworth House itself.

The North Wing of the House and the 9th Earl's Stables were also the basis of digs.

Tom illustrated his talk with up-to-the-minute graphics. We could see the Park from many angles and at different stages in its development.

Liz Lane

[Slindon Field 20 \(WarAg2\)](#)

Several WAS Members were at this dig on 7 days between Feb 23rd and March 4th, organised by the National Trust. The weather varied from cold and dry to cold and very wet. Clay isn't easy to dig in very wet conditions... We were investigating possible barrows and trackways. We found very obvious ditches through the chalk. There was plenty of evidence of human activity, e.g. sherds of pottery. We may possibly return to the site in June/July.

Secrets of the High Woods

WAS members helped with resistivity on a site near Whiteways. There will be a dig there in April. See their website for details.

highwoods@southdowns.gov.uk.

Judie English' Steyning dig

Judie and members of HDAG did some test-pitting in Steyning in 2014 during our summer dig.

They are returning to Steyning in April.

If any WAS member would like to be involved in this, please contact Judie.

We've set April 18th to 23rd (possibly also 24th am only) for the next set of test pits, as always weather permitting. If anyone interested emails me I'll set up a timetable and then circulate info about parking etc. The aims are to do some more work on the north-east side of Church Street to see how far up the road the 'early' settlement stretched and to look at the 'blank' area in the angle between Church Street and the High Street. Also looking at one garden to the north of the High Street because the owner has an extension planned and it kills two birds with one stone since she has an archaeological condition from planning,

judie.english@btoopenworld.com

Worthing Hobbies and Leisure Fair.

WAS had a stand at this event on March 5th.

Thank you to all who helped, visited or just encouraged. It was a very useful day.



John Pull Memorial Lecture February 8th.

James Sainsbury, from Worthing Museum, gave a crowded Lecture Theatre a most interesting account of the life and work of John Pull.

James described John's family and early life – he was born in 1899 in Tarrant St., Arundel, son of Albert who was a Foreman at Arundel Castle. The family moved to Worthing in 1910.

John volunteered for the Rifle Brigade in 1916, was gassed, captured by the Germans, escaped, and was sheltered by Nuns at the Ursuline Convent in Mons. During his war service he learned to survey.

He married Alice Quelch in 1925 and they had a daughter, Beryl, who, with her husband Derek, was a regular at the WAS John Pull Lectures, until Beryl's recent death. This year we had Beryl and Derek's daughter Amanda and her husband Tim with us to represent Derek, who was unwell.

There are over 600 known flint mines in our area, for example Church Hill, Findon, the oldest site, has 36 shafts and dates from 4300BC. At Cissbury there are at least 270 mines.

To summarise, John Pull excavated at Blackpatch from 1922 – he was 23 when he began working there, with friends and volunteers. Initially WAS was involved too. Between the wars, and between 1946 and 1952 he investigated Church Hill, and from 1952-1956, Cissbury – the youngest mines. Every mine investigated involved moving at least 100 tonnes of material.

By the end of WW2 he was a Colonel in the Home Guard. He rejoined WAS in 1947 and served as President for many years.

He wrote extensive and very full reports of the digs. He retired from the Post Office at 60 and was very sadly killed at his new workplace, Lloyds bank in Durrington a few months later.

He left the majority of his collection to Worthing Museum on condition that it was used to educate local people. James had brought some of the Collection for us to see.

Liz Lane

WAS Study Day: David Bone on the building Stones of West Sussex

On Saturday 17th January, members of the Society enjoyed a day-school led by David Bone who began by giving us an overview of the geological periods and describing the origin and properties of igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rock. We learned about the geology of West Sussex and were able to handle and practice identification of sample rocks suitable for building materials. These were rocks readily available locally as well as

those that were brought in by sea or by rail. David showed us how these various stone types are used in Churches across the county and in particular he explained maps showing us the correlation between the Church location and the source of the building material used.

We were given a list of 22 local churches, together with the number of different types of building stones used in their construction. As expected the older Churches dating from 11, 12 and 13th centuries had the largest variation of stone type, up to 17, whereas the more modern 19th and 20th century Churches were more uniform with only a couple of stone types.

We all had a good day and came away being able to recognise at least a few of the stone types and looking forward to visiting the listed Churches to try to identify all the stones listed.

Jacqui Lake

Val's Conundrum.....

What **is** a non-mechanical soil distributor facilitator?

A spade.....

Annual Journal

Articles for the next one will be very well received. Cheryl's email: hutchincheryl@hotmail.com

Help Needed.

Over the years a number of the WAS excavations were recorded using VHS tape. If anyone has the know-how or technology it would be good to transfer these into a digital format. If you can assist with this or know someone who can, please contact Keith Bolton. keithbolton14@gmail.com

James Sainsburys' Museum Talks

These talks are held in the Education Room of the Museum, from 10.30 – 12.30am and cost £10.

Full details on the Museum website.

To book, contact the Museum.

<http://www.worthingmuseum.co.uk>

or call in.

Neolithic Worthing Saturday 9th April

Sussex in the Iron Age Saturday April 23rd

And a Roman Day Saturday April 30th from 10.30am to 3pm. £25.

Walking into History with Alex Vincent

Meet at the Resource Centre (Davidson House) Car Park, North St., Worthing (BN11 1ER) on Monday evening at 6.45 for a 7pm start. Car sharing from there.

June 6th Kingston, Ferring – Chapel and village lost to the sea.

June 13th Hove. Old Church and site of original village.

June 20th Mile Oak, Portslade. Henge monument and Bronze Age Settlement.

June 27th Warminghurst. Church, lost village and site of fulling mill.

Summer Solstice 21st June Highdown Hill. Meet at the Spotted Cow in Angmering to join the Sompting Village Morris at 7pm.

Or meet on top of Highdown at about 8pm.

Enquiries to Alex on 07753282714 after 2,30pm on weekdays.

Adur and Worthing Planning

The most recent communication from the Planning Dept is to say that, as far as they know (as of February 2016), Adur and Worthing continue to benefit from the Archaeological Advice given by WSCC, in the guise of John Mills.

Please keep an eye on any Planning Applications.

Easy Fundraising

If you shop online, do consider using Easyfundraising to make donations to WAS.

<https://new.easyfundraising.org.uk>

Retailers give part of every amount spent to WAS if you nominate us as your charity.

Photo Archive

WAS is hoping to develop an archive of photos, accessible via the website. Some of our past digs are already well covered, but if you have photos you are willing to share, please would you send them to John Green on midwayjohn@btinternet.com.

If they are not recent ones, we would be grateful if you could give us names of people and sites included.

Many thanks,
WAS Committee

An example:



[Sussex Archaeological Society](#)

Saturday April 9th - Roadside Settlements in Roman Britain and Beyond

10am-5pm. Venue: King's Church, Lewes. A Sussex Archaeological Society event. The conference will explore different aspects of Roman roadside settlements and debate whether there are many or any commonalities between them. Speakers include: Martyn Allen, David Bird, Ernest Black, Paul Booth, David Calow, Karen Jeneson, David Millum, Rob Wallace, and Steve Willis.

Tickets: £40 (£25 student rate) including lunch.
Contact Details

- Email: members@sussexpast.co.uk
- Phone: 01273 405737 (Tuesday-Friday, 10am-3pm)
- Website: <http://sussexpast.co.uk/event/roman>

[2016 Holleyman Archaeology Lecture:](#)

Recent work on the Mesolithic of the coast and wetland edge in Southern Britain

April 21st. 7-9.00pm. Venue: Fulton Building Lecture Theatre A, University of Sussex, Falmer.

Speaker: Professor Martin Bell (University of Reading). The lecture will be followed by a wine reception. A joint Sussex School of Archaeology and Sussex Archaeological Society event.

Tickets: £10.

Contact Details

- Email: info@sussexarchaeology.co.uk
- Phone: 01323 811785
- Website: www.sussexarchaeology.org

[Horsham and District Archaeology Group](#)

Monday 11th April, 7pm, a talk by HDAG's Andy Bates entitled

Investigations and survey at the Oppida of Oldbury and Bigbury.

The county of Kent has few Hillforts compared to its neighbouring counties along the south coast of Britain; the majority of those positively acknowledged are located in the west of the county and only one, Bigbury, identified for certain in East Kent. Amongst the largest Hillforts in Kent are Oldbury, by far the biggest at 50ha situated between Ightham and Sevenoaks and Bigbury near Canterbury at 10.7ha.

This will be limited numbers and members only so booking is essential.

horshamarch@hotmail.co.uk

[Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society](#)

[Summer outings:](#)

To Piddington Roman Villa

Sunday 17th July

Pick-up at Hove Station at 8am, return by 8 pm.

Price BHAS Members £25; Non-members £28

To Roman Colchester Sunday August 7th

The coach pick-up points will be Hove Station at 8am,

Price: BHAS members £31 Non-members £34

For details and booking form, please email Jane Russell Russco40@hotmail.com

[USAS Lecture Series 2015/16](#)

All talks start at 7.00pm

(just turn up)

Venue: FULTON BUILDING Lecture Theatre A University of Sussex,

£2 Members, £3 Non-Members

Thursday 16th April.

Gladiators – see them in action

[Beeding and Bramber Local History Society](#)

Meetings are held at 7.45pm in Beeding & Bramber Village Hall, High Street, Upper Beeding, BN44 3WN and visitors are always welcome, entry for them £2.

April 6 *Matthew Jones* The Battle of Gallipoli

May 4 *Jeffery Leigh* Southwick Roman Villa

[Liss Archaeology](#)

<http://www.archaeology.co.uk/digging/fieldwork/the-colemore-project.htm>

[Eastbourne Natural History & Archaeological Society](#)

Meetings are held at 7.30pm at St Saviours Church Hall, South Street, Eastbourne
Members free. Visitors £2.50

Friday 22nd April 2016

[Annual General Meeting starting at 7.15](#)

followed at 8pm by

[The Archaeological Evaluation of work carried out at St Andrews Prep School Meads](#)

Gary Webster

St Andrews Prep School has been granted permission to build a large sports hall on part of their existing playing fields. It is known that there have been spot finds in the Meads area but very little detail exists. The school is known to be near Colstocks, one time Manor of Medesey. Gary oversaw the works carried out and will report on his findings.

Friday 10th June 2016

[The Artefacts from the Pococks Field Excavations of 2014 - 2015](#)

Giles Dawkes

Following Giles illuminating presentation on the pre development excavation at Pococks Field he has agreed to return and update us on the assessment of the finds recovered and their relevance to Eastbourne's pre-history.

www.eastbournearchaeology.org.uk

[Chichester District Archaeology Society](#)

For their activities:

www.cdas.info

[And finally a reminder](#)

Subs for 2016 were due on January 1st - £25 for ordinary members, £10 for full-time students.

Thank you very much to those who have already paid.

We would ask Members who pay by standing order or direct debit to please increase their amounts in line with the subs for 2016. Many thanks for this.

If the increased rate causes problems for anyone, do please let us know – via connieshirley1@aol.com

See Liz at Lectures or:

Please send to:

Liz Lane,
Membership Secretary.
5 Smugglers' Walk
Goring-by-Sea,
West Sussex.
BN12 4DP

Membership forms can also be downloaded from the WAS website.

Items for next News sheet please to

Liz, as above,

or liz.13lane@gmail.com

The Worthing Archaeological Society is a registered Charity (291431)

WORTHING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

SOILS AND SEEDS Dr. Michael Allen

(Allen Environmental Archaeology)

Saturday, 25th June 2016 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Downs Barn

There will be presentations on the use of soils and seeds in archaeology, site application and sampling techniques, also an opportunity to take part in practical sessions and discussions, processing samples and identification using microscopes.

Another fun day, this time, with soils and seeds in the beautiful surroundings of the South Downs.

The cost of the Day Course is £25 for members and £30 for non-members.

Coffee and tea will be provided.

If you would like to attend, please contact **Jacqueline Lake**

email: jacqueline_lake@hotmail.com or Tel: (01903) 215671

A DAY OF SURVEY TRAINING

Connie Shirley and WAS members

Saturday, 6th August 2016 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Downs Barn

The day will include using resistivity, GIS., laying out trenches
(remember Pythagoras?)

The Course is free for members and is £5 for non -members to cover
insurance.

Coffee and tea will be provided.

If you would like to attend, please contact **Jacqueline Lake**

email: Jacqueline_lake@hotmail.com or Tel: (01903) 215671

