

Worthing Archaeological Society

News sheet

Fieldwork

There will be an Open Field Unit Forum Meeting on Saturday 27th February, from 10am – 4pm, in Worthing Library Lecture Theatre. Refreshments will be available during the day, but please bring your own lunch. Full details at the end of the Newsletter.

WAS Field Unit - Saturday 19th March.
Recording of World War Two Graffiti on trees in Nore Wood.

Meet at Slindon NT Base Camp at 10:00 am and aim to finish by 3:00 pm. Bring packed-lunch and hot drinks and appropriate footwear and clothing - as it will involve walking to site. No experience necessary - open to all. Further details to be provided via e-mail. If you have any queries, please let Keith know. keithbolton14@gmail.com

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:

4th and 18th February and 10th and 24th of March.

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

Ggmturner@aol.com

Surveying

The focus of Friday activities is on keeping our skills going and enjoying being out in the open air. If you would like to take part, 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>

February – March 2016

New Year Walk, Sunday January 3rd

Due to the un-festive weather, this was cancelled..

A group of would-be walkers enjoyed an excellent lunch in the Frankland Arms in Washington.

Thanks to Theresa and Richard for the photo



Lecture Programme

All Lectures are held in the Worthing Library Lecture Theatre at 7.30pm.

February 9

James Sainsbury, Resident Archaeologist at Worthing Museum on 'John Pull and Britain's Earliest Industrial Landscape'

An in-depth talk on John Pull's investigations at Blackpatch, Church Hill and Cissbury Ring. From humble beginnings at Blackpatch to the well-respected local figure excavating at Cissbury, Pull spent nearly forty years digging on the Downs. We will look in detail at his excavations of the nationally important Neolithic flint mining complexes north of Worthing and whether his conclusions stand up to modern scrutiny, in addition to having the opportunity to view his original plans, notes and illustrations. Similarly some of the enigmatic finds from these sites will be available for handling and viewing. This is the John Pull Lecture

Glass of wine or cup of coffee afterwards.

March 8

AGM at 7.00pm followed by Lecture at 7.30pm
Tom Dommett, National Trust Archaeologist, on 'The Excavations at Petworth Park'.

Beneath Capability Brown's manicured landscape, created in the 1750s, lie the traces of hundreds of years of historical change, development and expansion. Tom will talk about the discovery of Tudor hunting lodges, deserted medieval villages and demolished monumental stables discovered during the Petworth Park archaeological project.

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.

WAS Study Days

The next planned Study Days are:
Saturday February 13th : Historic Building Stone of West Sussex with David Bone.

An example below of recycled Roman stone at Westhampnett Church.

Saturday 5th March: Making Sense of Monuments - Landscape Archaeology in Sussex with David McOmish.

Full details at the end of the Newsletter.

Annual Journal

Has now been published, and you should have a copy, either with this Newsletter or online.

Many thanks to all the Contributors and especial thanks to Cheryl for Editing.

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

hutchincheryl@hotmail.com

December Lecture

Secrets of the High Woods, a South Downs National Park project

Talk by Alice Thorne, LiDAR and heritage mapping officer for the 'Secrets of the High Woods' project.

In March 2013, a plane carrying airborne Laser scanning equipment – LIDAR - flew over the wooded area of the South Downs National Park, between the A3 near Winchester and the River Arun, near Arundel, surveying the whole area. Aerial photography cannot penetrate the

tree cover of leaves, but in March there are fewer leaves on the trees so the scanning beam can get through.

The basic principle of LIDAR or Aerial Lidar scanning – ALS - as a survey tool, relies on the ability to calculate the time taken by a beam of light to travel from the sensor to the reflecting surface and back.

The sensor scans in a direction perpendicular to the direction of flight, creating a swathe of point measurements. ALS is an active remote sensing technique, (meaning that measurements are taken using light emitted from the sensor unit rather than the reflection of natural light) which enables night-time data collection.

This data of point measurements gives height and intensity of the signal bouncing back, depending on the type of material that's being reflected. A terrain model is produced with the vegetation removed, revealing the ground surface beneath. The humps and bumps that are seen in these landscape surveys have been used to learn more about hydrology, the environment and now archaeology.

The data can be manipulated to show hills and valleys lit in different directions to reveal ancient field systems underlying later enclosures, or trackways and roads crossing the land.

Several WAS members are participating as volunteers in this project in different ways. Some are ground-truthing the Lidar surveys – to see if the black marks on the survey are quarries, dew-ponds or bomb craters; or the white ones are BA barrows or a pile of brash left by foresters. They go out into the field with a tablet (iPad) with a specific SHW programme, which the volunteer uses to make a record of the sites they visit and identify the ditches, banks, mounds or other anomalies they find. They note the GPS position and take a photograph with two 2 -metre measuring rods.

Then they record its size, appearance, possible date and any threats to the item in question. Other volunteers are looking at documentary evidence and maps in the WSRO, to see how the different areas were used through time, while a third group are recording oral histories of people who have lived and worked in the woods for a very long time.

Alice showed an excellent video, which revealed a fly through of the Lidar survey of Stane St, SW of Gumber Farm, while at the same time seeing the vertical view of Stane st with the trees growing either side in the ditches.

You can see this here:

<http://www.southdowns.gov.uk/discover/heritage/secrets-of-the-high-woods/what-is-lidar/>



You can also see further Lidar visualizations on the same site. Fascinating to see what can be done with this data. The third video shows what the National mapping Project team have been up to. They have mapped all the anomalies in pink, showing what they think the various features are. It's up to the field groups to verify on the ground all these markings.

The Lidar survey has revealed a mind-boggling amount of archaeological information, and it's exciting for the volunteers to be doing so much detective work on the SHW project. Many thanks to Alice for giving us this talk and showing how Lidar surveys tell us so much about the hidden history and archaeology of the wooded area of the South Downs National Park.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer on the project, please contact highwoods@southdowns.gov.uk

Sue Brown

[January Lecture by Sean Wallis of Thames Valley Archaeological Services.](#)

Sean was inspired to study Archaeology after digging at Fishbourne. He has now worked in Archaeology for 15 years.

He talked about recent TVAS digs in Worthing. The first was near where Littlehampton Road meets Offington Lane, on the site of a commercial building. Archaeology South East had found a cremation urn from the mid 2nd to 3rd Century AD on a site just to the north.

TVAS found gravel, probably part of the Ice Age river channel known to run through Worthing, a Roman ditch (which cut the channel), several postholes and Roman pot, including part of an amphora, plus bone and burnt flint.

On the Bohunt School site, they again found the gravel, lying directly on the chalk. Also a Neolithic pit, containing pot and 200plus pieces of flint. There were other Neolithic pits, full of flint, which suggests that knapping was carried on on the site, the waste being put in the pits. One unfinished axe was found. Hazelnut shells and pot are all under analysis.

The third site was areas to the east and north of Northbrook College where there are roundhouses from the late Bronze and early Iron Age, Roman ditches and pits. 1500 features were found, most of the time in very harsh conditions – very cold or very wet or hard-baked brick earth. WAS knows about that! One complete cremation pot was found in a pit, dating between 150 and 200 AD, a Roman well – shades of Walberton Villa – Iron Age ditches cut by a Roman ditch, a large Enclosure, possibly connected with animal husbandry, which cut through roundhouses, and inside it there was a complete roundhouse.

Liz Lane

[Romano-British Art. Study Day given by Miles Russell](#)

20 interested folk spent a really fascinating day listening to Miles in the Museum Education Room. He began by giving us a rapid, but thorough, history of Roman Art, both private and public, touching on influences from Greek and other cultures. He covered sculpture, painted wall plaster and mosaics, pointing out that sculptures and arches etc. would originally have been painted – and in strong colours. He touched on the techniques used and effects created, such as 3D effect wall paintings. We looked at Pre-Roman 'Celtic' art – really only seen in their metalwork – coins, torcs etc – or surviving standing stones.

The Romanisation of Britain is best observed through Art, where Roman ideas impacted on native culture.

For instance, Romano-British heads don't have the perfection and symmetry of Classical sculpture, but they do show talent and artistry. Painted plaster is a rare survival in Britain, but what there is suggests a common theme of blocks of colour.

We know nothing about the Mosaicists, but they would not have aimed for perfection, as only the gods were perfect! Britain has the highest proportions of mythological mosaic scenes in the Roman Empire.



The mosaic above – a version of Venus, from Rudston in East Yorkshire - would not have been a success in Rome.....

Thanks to Miles for an excellent day.

Liz Lane

[Worthing Rotary Hobbies and Leisure Fair](#)

WAS is planning to have a Stall at the Worthing Rotary Leisure and Hobbies Fayre on Saturday March 5th, from 10am - 4pm. As it is the same day as David McOmish' Study Day, a number of us will not be free - apart from for setting up and packing up at the end.

Is there anyone who would be willing to 'mind the Stall' for an hour or more on that day?

Please would you let me know. Thank you to those who have already offered, but we do need a few more.

Many thanks.

Liz 01903 501422

liz.13lane@gmail.com

[Adur and Worthing Planning](#)

From 1st April 2015, West Sussex withdrew Archaeological Advice from the Districts.

WAS, along with the Worthing Society and local MPs, were in touch about this, and we were reassured that Adur and Worthing have retained the advice of West Sussex. This doesn't guarantee anything beyond the end of March 2016.

The implications of this are huge. In theory, developments will be possible without any prior Archaeological investigation – unless there is already known and recorded archaeology on the site.

WAS will continue to monitor the situation and will report on progress.

Liz

[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:



Patrick M, Anne Induni, Con and ?
Where and when?

[Sussex Archaeological Society](#)

Saturday 9th April - Roadside Settlements in Roman Britain and Beyond - Sussex Archaeological Society Conference - Kings Church, Lewes. Cost £40 or £25 students. This includes lunch. Contact members@sussexpast.co.uk for more details and to book

[2016 Sussex Archaeology Symposium](#)

March 19th 10am-5pm. Venue: The Huxley Building, Brighton University, Lewes Road, Brighton.

The annual review of recent archaeological fieldwork and research in Sussex, covering a wide range of periods and topics. Speakers will include: Lara Band, Tom Dommett, Mike Donnolly, Jaime Kaminski, Matt Pope, Mark Roberts, David Rudling, Jo Seamen, David Staveley, Alice Thorne and Scott Timpany. Book stalls.

A Sussex School of Archaeology event.

Tickets: £35 including lunch.

Contact Details

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

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

Saturday 27th February 2016 10am-4pm - Bayeux Tapestry Dayschool with Simon Stevens, ASE, at Easteds Barn, Southwater. (A fee will apply).

horshamarch@hotmail.co.uk

Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society

Talks starts at 7.30pm at the Unitarian Church, New Road, Brighton.

Free entry to BHAS Members, non-members £3.00

Friday 12th February - BHAS Lecture -

Excavations at the Roman site of Butrint in Albania - Speaker Oliver Gilkes.

Friday March 11th - Excavations at Pocock's Field, Eastbourne - Speaker Giles Dawkes - Pococks field has turned out to be a multi-period site, starting with the Bronze Age, all periods of the Iron Age, Roman burials, building material and a possible shrine within an enclosure, Saxon buildings and settlement evidence, medieval track-ways and boundaries and a Tudor House.

Day Schools

Saturday February 20th 2016 - A BHAS 1/2 Day School - 'Richard III - The king and I' - speaker Pauline Carroll - Starting at 10-00 am. The event will be free to BHAS members and a donation of £3 from non-members. There is a limited number of seats so do book early to avoid disappointment. Contact Pete Tolhurst at tolpete@btinternet.com

Saturday 27th February - The Theory and practice of Flint Knapping - Paul Saddleton – Patcham Community Centre - Cost £25

Saturday 12th March - A Medieval Buildings Days school - Tutor Judie English – Patcham Community C -Cost £25

Sunday 7th February - A Geoff Mead Walk - Dallington; High Weald Views - Dallington sits on a high ridge in the heart of the Weald; forests streams, lanes and views. Meet at Dallington Church, The Street at 10-00am. 3 hours 5 miles.

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 25th February

The Maori, their archaeology, history and heritage.

John Manley

Thursday 31st March

The Durotriges Project: Life and death in Iron Age Dorset.

Dr Miles Russell (University of Bournemouth)

Slindon Field 20 'dig'

The National Trust are undertaking a community excavation at Slindon in February/March 2016. The excavations will run from 23-25 February (with contingency to continue on 26 February) and 1-3 March (with contingency to continue on 4 March), targeting archaeological features in War Ag 2 which have been identified through field survey and geophysical survey, ranging from Bronze Age barrows to Iron-Age field systems and possible Romano-British settlement.

We will be looking for up to 12 volunteers each day to assist with these evaluation excavations which will be led by George Anelay of West Sussex Archaeology. I'm sure this will be a really exciting excavation with the potential to tell us a huge amount about the changing nature of land-use and occupation in this area. All volunteers will meet each morning at 8.30am at the National Trust Slindon Office – transport to and from the site will be provided by the National Trust. There will be the option to stay overnight at the Slindon basecamp on the nights of 23/24 February and 1/2 March. Welfare facilities (toilets, marquee) will be provided on-site by the National Trust. If anyone is interested in taking part in the excavations

please email tom.dommett@nationaltrust.org.uk noting the dates you would like to attend.

Saturday 13th February - Aspects of Arundel

Local historian Rosemary Hagedorn will take a lively look at the development of the town for this introductory study day. Tea and coffee included – bring a packed lunch. Tickets £20 (£15 for Arundel Museum Society members). Tickets available in advance from Arundel Museum, Mill Road, Arundel, BN18 9PA Tel. 01903 885866, email : office@arundelmuseum.org. www.arundelmuseum.org

Arundel Museum - Walking Tours

Arundel Museum has over 20 years of experience conducting historic walks in our unique town. Each walk is led by a friendly and knowledgeable guide.

Walks are approximately 1-1½ hours

Available walks:

- Arundel Past & Present (an introductory walk around the town)
- Exploring Arundel's Georgian and Victorian Architecture
- The Port of Arundel
- The Arundel Castle Story
- Industrial Arundel
- Bridge to Bridge Walk (all on level ground)

Walks cost £4 per person with a minimum group size of 5

These walks are ideal for history societies, clubs, schools, family groups, coach trips and day trips. Walks can be pre-booked by calling 01903 885 866 or email

office@arundelmuseum.org.
www.arundelmuseum.org

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.

February 3 *Simon Stevens*

'The Stiances Archaeology Project - Working with Children and Animals' (a project that involves the children from a Primary School (all 230-odd of them) in a dig on a site near the school - a demolished set of medieval and post-medieval farm buildings with some Mesolithic material thrown in for good measure.

March 2 AGM followed by *Gerald Gazdar*
Mass Clocks

Liss Archaeology

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

Eastbourne Natural History & Archaeological Society

Friday 12th February 2016

The Extensive Iron Age Settlement on St Annes Hill Eastbourne

Anna Docherty

First discovered in late 1989 this Iron Age site on the crest of St Annes Hill revealed a great deal of new archaeological information about settlement in Eastbourne. Anna is a Senior Archaeologist with Archaeology South East and will highlight details of the exploration of the site.

Friday 11th March 2016

The Prehistoric Archaeology of Jersey and its Environs.

Matt Pope

Matt is the leading prehistoric archaeologist in the U.K. specialising in the Palaeolithic. Since 2010 he has helped to co-ordinate a multi-disciplinary team in the renewed investigation of La Cotte de St Brelade and the wider Quaternary archaeology of the Island of Jersey. He will give us an insight into his research and findings.

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

www.eastbournearchaeology.org.uk

Chichester District Archaeology Society

For their activities:

www.cdas.info

Wealden Buildings Study Group

21st February 2016 11am-3pm at Wivelsfield Church Hall

Petworth - buildings in the Park- Tom Dommett

Tom is the Regional Consultant Archaeologist for the National Trust and director of the archaeological excavations as part of the Petworth Park Restoration Project. Tom is leading the first serious archaeological investigation to ever take place in

Petworth Park. Today people see gentle rolling slopes, tranquil lakes and grand vistas. However, back in the 14th century it was a grand medieval manor house. Tom will discuss the findings of the last 3 years investigations within Petworth Park of the multiplicity of structures both vernacular and polite that have been successively demolished, as the landscape of the Park has evolved over the centuries.

Hearth and Home - Dr Geoffrey Mead

The vernacular housing of Sussex is heavily influenced by the local materials to build hearth and home. Geoffrey links the availability of these materials to the underlying geology, in this highly acclaimed talk.

Wivelsfield Church Hall, Church Lane (off A2112), RH17 7RD. Car park is on the left next to the Church and the hall is further up on the right.

The talks are open to Members (£2.50 for refreshments) and to the Public (£5 for attendance including refreshments). Please bring a packed lunch for the January & February talks. Reserve places by email: visits@wealdenbuildings.org.uk or call our secretary on 01323 482215

[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 [Connie \[connieshirley1@aol.com\]\(mailto:connieshirley1@aol.com\)](mailto: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)

HISTORIC BUILDING STONES OF WEST SUSSEX

David Bone

**Saturday, 13th February 2016 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Education Room, Worthing Museum**

The course will introduce the wide variety of building stone that has been used in the area since Roman times. Topics will include stone identification, why they were selected for building, their geology, use and history with particular reference to building stones used in the historic churches of the district.

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

If you would like to attend, please contact **Gill Turner** by email: Ggmturner@aol.com or Tel: (01903) 692522

MAKING SENSE OF MONUMENTS: Landscape Archaeology in Sussex

**David McOmish
(Historic England: Research Group)**

**Saturday, 5th March 2016 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Education Room, Worthing Museum**

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 hillforts or Bronze Age barrow cemeteries – they are unavoidable when walking along the South Downs ridge, for example. If you look at any Ordnance 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 related to the wider landscape (monuments or otherwise).

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

If you would like to attend, please contact **Gill Turner** by email: Ggmturner@aol.com or Tel: (01903) 692522

WAS Field Unit Forum 2016

On Saturday 27th of February the WAS Field Unit Forum will be hosting an open day at Worthing Library.

The objective of the day will be to give an update on past and current work, present opportunities for members to get involved as well as a chance to discuss the future.

All society members are very welcome to come along and share some ideas.

Itinerary for the Day

10 -10:15 - Welcome and introduction to the day

10:15 - 12 - Past and Current Field Unit projects

- ◆ Blacksmith corner
- ◆ Parham
- ◆ Walberton
- ◆ Lower Farm
- ◆ Angmering
- ◆ Future field work (Gobblestubs)
- ◆ Surveying
- ◆ Finds

12-1 - Lunch break

1-1:30 - Future

Discussion topics will include

- ◆ Areas/periods of interest
- ◆ Possible topics for Lectures/ Day Schools/ Training in archaeological methods
- ◆ Increasing membership
- ◆ Activities
- ◆ Writing for the Journal
- ◆ The structure of the field unit

2:15 - 3:15 - Discussion and Feedback



Worthing Archaeological Society

Registered Charity No. 291431

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held on Tuesday 8th March 2016 at 7pm in the Lecture Theatre at Worthing Library, Richmond Road, Worthing.

A g e n d a

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the last AGM
3. Chairman's Annual Report
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Election of the Independent Examiner
6. Field Unit Report
7. Election of Officer and Committee listed below
8. Any other business

The current Officers and Committee members are standing for re-election.

President Mr John Mills

Chairman Mr Keith Bolton

Secretary Mrs Cheryl Hutchins

Treasurer Mrs Connie Shirley

Committee members:

Mr Roy Plummer (Life Vice President), Mrs Josephine Thornton (Life Vice President), Mrs Liz Lane (Membership Secretary), Mrs Margaret Maroney, Mrs Gill Turner, Mr Ian Robertson, Mrs Jacqueline Lake and Mr Andrew Bell (Programme Secretary) and Ms Amie Friend.

Nominations for Committee Membership should be submitted to Cheryl Hutchins – hutchincheryl@hotmail.com or by post to 15 Queen Street, Littlehampton BN17 6EP before the date of the AGM.

A full set of finance accounts will be made available on the night of the meeting.

The meeting will be followed by a lecture by Tom Dommett of the National Trust on the Excavations at Petworth Park.