

Worthing Archaeological Society

News sheet

June – July 2018

GDPR Many thanks to you all for responding so helpfully.

WAS Field Unit

Slindon Field 20 dig

Finishes on Monday 5th June.

We are investigating the possible Roman 'industrial' building, and the 'lozenge' found last year, as well as opening 2 new trenches. It is such a glorious place to spend time.

There are regular updates on WAS Facebook.



Sompting Malthouse dig dates are: 23rd June – 8th July.

The trenches will be surveyed in on June 19th and opened on June 20th. We will be taking kit to the site on the 21st.

Full details will be sent nearer the time, but if you intend to join us, whether to dig, survey or process Finds, please let Liz know (liz.13lane@gmail.com or 01903 501422), giving dates you can be there.

Finds Processing

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

Next dates: Thursday 7th & 21st June

No meeting on Thursday 5th July - Sompting dig

Thursday 19th July

Thursday 2nd & 16th August

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.

Lecture Programme

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

Full Lecture Programme 2018 – 2019 attached.

October 9th

Amie Friend on 'Saved by the Waves.'

Con Ainsworth Memorial Lecture

Nov 13th - Jon Sygrave UCL - Flint Mines of Sussex + Whitehawk

WAS Study Days

Planning and section drawing training with Bob Turner at the Malthouse dig, Sompting, 30th June.

On the Saturday 30th June we are having a special training day led by Bob Turner on site at our Malthouse dig. The training will be divided into two sections, running concurrently: one for complete beginners and the other for those who have already done some planning and section drawing to improve their skills. Bob will be giving instructions on both planning and section

drawing making use of the dig's open trenches, the very best place to learn.

This is an ideal opportunity for both beginners and those with some knowledge to learn in a real archaeological environment. We need some idea of numbers so if you'd like to take part please contact me in good time at jacqueline.lake@hotmail.com. Further detailed instructions will be provided nearer the time.

A Day School by Jeremy Clarke, Saturday 29th September 2018, Worthing Museum Education Room, 10 – 4pm

The title is 'An Introduction to timber-framed buildings of the Weald, their development and dating for beginners'

This course will cover terminology, the development and construction of timber-framed buildings, the basics of building recording, how to approach dating a building along with a set of useful resources. The day will end with a group practical session using site photographs and plans to try out the knowledge gained during the day and demonstrate how a building can be interpreted.

£25 for members and £30 for non-members
If you would like to attend this day school please contact Patricia Leming, email: p.leming@btinternet.com

Rampion Archaeology Event on Tuesday 12 June (7pm) at the Ropetackle Arts Centre in Shoreham.

The archaeological work involved with the development and construction of the wind farm has uncovered a number of finds that will enable a greater knowledge and understanding of the local past.

Marine surveys uncovered an aircraft propeller, anchors and maritime and aviation wrecks and revealed submerged paleolandscapes. Land-based work found evidence of human activity from hunter-gatherers after the last Ice Age through to post medieval-modern agricultural techniques.

It is for anyone interested in archaeology and keen hear more about how the Rampion work was carried out and what was found.

There will be speakers from Rampion, RSK, Wessex Archaeology and Archaeology South-East – and the event will be free to all.

After the presentations there will be refreshments and a chance to see some of the finds and talk to project archaeologists.

April Lecture - Dr Jaime Kaminski on The 'Near-Lewes' Hoard.

Dr Kaminski, of the University of Brighton, said that he was very interested in artefacts, i.e. objects made by human beings. He is currently involved with analyzing and studying star artefacts at Brighton Museum, prior to the opening of its Archaeology displays later this year.

In March 2011 a Metal Detectorist on the Glynde Estate found about 80 objects and fragments of objects below the crest of a hill. They were buried more than 3000 years ago, in a ceramic vessel. The Detectorist removed the hoard and took photos of it as he excavated it. The vessel was heavily damaged, probably by ploughing, and ploughing has removed a large part of the assemblage. At the bottom of the vessel was a basal deposit of 5 Sussex loops. This is the biggest collection of loops found in a single place – and locally produced.



Gold disks, tutuli mounts, bronze pins, a necklace were also found.

A rescue excavation involving the Portable Antiquities Scheme, Sussex Archaeological Society, and East Sussex County Council, then took place and 19 additional artefacts and fragments were found, including 13 amber beads. There was an Inquest, the hoard was taken to the British Museum etc. The process took 3 years, but the hoard should be on display at Barbican House later this year. The artefacts belong to the Middle Bronze Age – between 1400 and 1250 BC. There are local ones, national ones and international ones. The 4 gold disks, averagely 87% gold, are the first ever found in the UK.

The amber beads represent at least 2 necklaces, with a wire core and a bronze spiral decoration. The closest parallels to these are from Northern Germany. The amber is probably Baltic.

There are tutuli mounts – conical structures, a flange and a nail or pin through the centre. These are possibly part of something else, probably some kind of ornament.

There are 3 palstaves, of the Rowlands type, composed mostly of copper and tin and weighing, altogether, 1.5kg. They were not made by one person.

There are 8 spiral finger rings, very complicated to make as bronze hardens as it's manipulated. The process of annealing must have been known to the makers.

These are not uncommon in Sussex – Jaime passed round a bronze replica.



There are 4 twisted torcs – also very challenging to produce, and we don't really know whether they were worn constantly, as they wouldn't be easy to put on.

To sum up, these objects are ornamentation for both body and clothing, and come from local sources, France and Germany.

[Matt Pope's Tour 14th April](#)



Matt Pope took a party of WAS members on a tour by mini-bus of the landscape past and present from Worthing to Chichester. Before we set out from Worthing Matt made some introductory remarks inviting us to imagine changes in the landscape during glaciations and warm periods over the last half a million years and in the future including the comforting thought that at some point Worthing as we know it will not exist!

It was a full day tour, stopping at The Trundle to look at the formation of the landscape north and south of the hill. West Stoke and Slindon

bottom for dry valleys and raised beaches, UpWaltham and The Mens for the formation of the Weald and Peppering Farm (Burpham) for River Terraces where Matt showed the group where work on levelling part of a lane leading down to the river had revealed elephant bones deposited in a warm period between glaciations.

One of the many themes of Matt's tour was the raised beach at Boxgrove which subsequent work has revealed runs from Arundel to behind Portsdown, and the related formation of a bay on what is now the coastal plain between Arundel and Westbourne Common.



Matt covered a great deal over the course of the day and for those who want to read more about the subject the latest report on the wider Boxgrove area is available from SpoilHeap publications for UCL Institute of Archaeology, M. B. Roberts and M. I. Pope, price £30.



Colin Wheeler

[Annual Journal](#)

Articles for the next one will be very well received.

Cheryl's email: hutchincheryl@hotmail.com

[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 Theresa and Richard on theresa_in_brighton@yahoo.co.uk

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

[Beedings and Bramber LHS](#)

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.

Talks re-start in the Autumn.

[Horsham and District Archaeology Group](#)

horshamarch@hotmail.co.uk

[Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society](#)

Talks will resume in the Autumn.

Geoff Mead walks:

June 3rd 10am Brighton Norfolk Sq. On the border.

Urban lanes, twittens and elegant squares.

Meet Norfolk Sq. bus stop TQ 301043

July 1st 6pm Newhaven Castle Hill LNR.

Explore the clifftop reserve and expect to be surprised!

Meet Newhaven Fort top carpark TQ 447002

July 4th 6pm Warminghurst...& USA.

Independence Day links a Sussex village and USA. Pinewoods, arable and grassland on this summer evening

stroll. Meet Warminghurst church. TQ 117169

[Sussex Archaeology](#)

Contact: www.sussexarchaeology.org.

[Liss Archaeology](#)

www.lissarchaeology.uk

Or email lissarchaeology@gmail.com

[CBA Southeast](#)

Runs lots of Archaeological events, workshops, etc.

www.cbasouth-east.org

[Chichester District Archaeology Society](#)

Lectures, in the New Park Cinema Centre, start at 7.30 pm and usually finish about 9 pm. An

entry fee of £5 is payable by non-members at the door.

www.cdas.info

[Walking into History](#)

Archaeology Walks for 2018 with Alex Vincent. Meet at the Resource Centre (Davison House) Car Park, North Street, Worthing, BN11 1ER on Monday evenings at 6.45 for 7 PM. Route maps on how to get there will be given on the day. A fee of £1 or £2 for petrol money to the drivers from the passengers is recommended. A donation is payable to the Resource Centre for the walks and all are welcome. After the walks, we go to a pub for refreshment.

Jun 4. Ashurst. Church, village and Vamping Horn..

Jun 11. Southwick. Site of Roman villa.

Jun 18. Clayton. Church and village.

Summer Solstice June 21st Highdown Hill. Meet at the Spotted Cow, Angmering at 7pm to join the Sompting Morris, or meet on Highdown Hill about 8pm. Sunset is at 21.19 (9.19 PM).

Jun 25. Barpham, Wepham. Friday's Church and Cross Dyke Ridge.

Jul 2. Slindon. Church, village and old railway carriage.

Jul 9. Cissbury/Mount Carvey. Possible Neolithic flint mines.

Jul 16. Steyning. Village pumps.

Jul 23. Dankton, Sompting. Old settlement and Cross Dyke Ridge.

Jul 30. Nephote, Findon. Possible shrunken village and sheep fair.

[Wealden Buildings Study Group](#)

Have a full programme of visits this summer. For details:

www.wealdenbuildings.org.uk

[Geology](#)

South-East England Regional Conference. Saturday 24th November, in Kings Church Centre, Lewes.

Speakers to include: David Rudling, Chris Hare. Full details on our website:

www.worthingarchaeological.org

[And finally a reminder](#)

Subs for 2018 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 2018. Many thanks for this.

If the increased rate causes problems for anyone, do please let us know – via Connie 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:

www.worthingarchaeological.org

Items for next News sheet please to Liz, as above,
or liz.13lane@gmail.com

The Worthing Archaeological Society is a registered Charity (291431)

