

Worthing Archaeological Society

News sheet

August – September 2017

Fieldwork

Our Summer dig will be from Saturday August 5th to Thursday August 17th inclusive. This time we are going to look at an area in Rough Copse, West of Goblestubbs which showed up on the Lidar.

Setting up/Surveying will take place on August 3rd & 4th, and Recording/Planning/closing the site on August 16th and 17th.

We will meet every morning at 9am at the Slindon shed, to combine transport.

If you are interested, and haven't already let us know, please sign up now.

Email Liz: liz.13lane@gmail.com

Or ring 01903 501422

with dates you can be there and whether you would like to dig, process Finds, Survey.....

Thank you.

Field-walking at Warren Barn, Slindon is planned for later in the year, probably in September. Details out later.

Finds Processing

At our July 19th gathering we congratulated Gill and Bob on their 50th Wedding anniversary.



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

The next dates are Thursday 3rd August - Slindon Shed

No meeting on 17th August as we will be digging at Rough Copse

Thursday, 7th September - Worthing Museum - Binsted Pottery Project

Thursday, 21st September - Slindon Shed

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

Ggmturmer@aol.com

Surveying

Friday surveying and recording works continues with work on a flint building in Sompting village. Despite the very dry soils, resistivity gave us some targets to work on, apart from the flint foundations which first set us off.



Early work, above, and after a couple of weeks:



We don't know what it was, but we do know that the 1936 South of England Show was held on this field.....

There are other flint structures in the field, and a couple of trenches opened to investigate.

Next dates are: August 25,
September 01, 08, 22, 29.
We start at around 9:30 each Friday and finish
mid-afternoon. Anyone interested in taking part
in these works, even if you only want to come
occasionally, let Connie know at
connieshirley1@aol.com.

Lecture Programme 2017 - 2018

See flyer at the end of this Newsletter.
In the Worthing Library Lecture Theatre at
7.30pm.

October 10th

Gordon Hayden on "Iron Age Memory vs.
Roman Metaphor; re-reading the archaeology
of a Client Kingdom."

This is the Con Ainsworth Memorial Lecture.
There will be wine and hot drinks afterwards..

November 14th

James Sainsbury on "Evidence for Saxons in
Post-Roman Sussex"

James will be bringing some finds from the
Highdown Cemetery for handling after his talk.

December 12th

Nigel Rumble on "The life of an English Soldier
in the English Civil War"

WAS Social – put the date in your diaries –
7.30pm on Friday 24th November, at the
Gardeners' Arms in Sompting.

WAS Study Days

Saturday 30 September – The Bronze Age

Continuing on from last year's study day on the
Neolithic and the Iron Age, David McOmish will
discuss the Bronze Age. This will be held from
10 - 4pm in the Education Room at Worthing
Museum. See flyer at end of Newsletter.

Saturday 25th November – Place-names in the Landscape

A morning session will be led by Judie English
on Place-names in the Landscape and how
they were derived. This will be held from 10 –
1pm in the Education Room at Worthing
Museum.

If you would like to attend either of these
sessions, please contact: Patricia Leming by
email: p.leming@btinternet.com

Visit to Mike Allen's laboratory

On 17th July members of the WAS Finds Team
visited Mike Allen's laboratory, at Allen
Environmental Archaeology in Wiltshire. Our
main object was to learn about samples

processing, in particular for our carbon samples
from the recent dig at Slindon field 20. Thanks
to an early start and our excellent drivers, Chris
and Richard, we arrived in good time at the
right place, easily recognised by the giant snail
on the gateposts.

Mike gave us a tour of the facilities available in
the laboratory including his impressive bespoke
flotation system. This was followed by a
demonstration of flotation and sieving of a land
snail sample from Stonehenge. We examined
samples of charcoal under a microscope,
learning how the tree species could be
identified, and the importance of differentiating
heartwood from round wood.



We also used the microscope to look at cereal
and chaff grains as Mike explained the
significance of what types were found in a
sample.

Mike impressed on us the importance of being
clear about what we wanted to learn from our
sample before collecting it, also the care that
must be taken choosing and actually collecting
the samples. He also explained how we could
carry out our own flotations and sieving using
meshes, pegs and buckets.

After a convivial lunch in the garden, it was a
lovely warm and sunny day, we set off in
convoy to Larkhill for a guided walk around the
Stonehenge landscape. Mike told us about
ongoing research excavations in the area and
we were able to look into a partially backfilled
trench which had turned out to be a 2m deep
pit, probably Mesolithic, which bore the
characteristics of a large post-hole, possibly for
a totem pole type construction. The highlight of
the afternoon was walking uphill along the
Avenue and seeing Stonehenge appear ahead
over the brow of the hill, it was pure magic.
Many thanks to Mike for such a great day and
hopefully we will be doing the flotation
processing of our own samples before long.

Jacqui



Binsted Strawberry Fayre Sunday 23rd July

The 30th Binsted Strawberry Fair was held in the special setting of a flint 19th Century threshing barn, in Binsted Lane, surrounded by the beautiful Sussex countryside. Members of Worthing Archaeological Society have regularly had a stall at this unique fair. We set up our display collection of finds dating from early Palaeolithic stone tools to Post-Medieval tiles and pottery.



We were welcomed by Mike Tristram, who lent us another gazebo to keep us dry; other stall holders lent us an umbrella and some pegs to stop our table cloth and membership forms from blowing away.

The squally English weather didn't stop us having a fine afternoon. We had many visitors to our stall who were interested in all the WAS activities in Binsted local area. We answered questions about the Roman villa site in Walberton, the pottery kilns in Binsted and the Goblestubbs sites across the A27. Some of the visitors told us about their own finds, including pieces of pottery, flint tools and a polished flint axe, which they, their parents or grandparents, had found in fields nearby.

We had a delightful time meeting so many people interested in archaeology and appreciate the help from Society members and others. See you there next year!

Theresa



Worthing Museum Walks

Join James Sainsbury on 2 walks on the Downs. Wednesday afternoons 12pm – 4pm. Cost £3 per person.

Wednesday 16th August: Cross-dykes and Deserted Villages 5 miles.

Wednesday 23rd August Highdown Hill 2 miles.

To book a walk, please contact 01903 221448 or email museum@adur-worthing.gov.uk.

Starting in October, James is giving a series of talks in the Museum on Thursday evenings, from 6.30 to 8.30 These are the October titles. For the full series, contact the Museum as above.

Thursday 12th October, Sussex in the Stone Age – from Mammoths to Monuments

Thursday 19th October, Bronze Age Worthing – Barrows, Beakers and Hoards

Thursday 26th October, Cissbury Ring and Worthing's Iron Age

Windows on the Pier

Our two commemorative Windows are being designed by Siobhan Jones.

Many thanks to those who have contributed to this.

CBA South-East Conference – Lewes 7th October – see flyer at end.

Binsted Walk and Talk Friday 9 June

As part of the Binsted Arts Festival, an afternoon archaeological walk, led by Matt Pope, (aided by Connie, as Emma Tristram was unwell), explored the Binsted area, and in the evening, Katie and Bob from the Slindon National Trust, talked about the Estate, it's history, management, flora and fauna. Both events were well supported by WAS members.

Newsletter

If anyone has 'electronic copies' of the Annual Journals pre: 2014, that were not on the old

website, it would be great to put them on the new website as they include WAS reports and photos from past excavations and other excellent articles (or paper versions can be scanned.) Theresa
theresa_in_brighton@yahoo.co.uk

Annual Journal

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

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.

Aug 7th Half Brick, Worthing. Roman site, fisherman's shops, brickworks and pub.

Aug 14th Poulter's Corner, Worthing. Roman cemetery, crossroads and pollarded tree.

As this is the last walk, we will go to a pub for a final gathering.

Sept 4th Social get together at 8pm at the Swan, in Worthing.

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

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.

Wed. 6 Sep Coach Roads to Brighton
Geoffrey Hewlett

Wed. 4 Oct Shepherds of the South Downs
Ian Everest

Wed. 1 Nov Sussex Industrial History
Geoffrey Mead

Horsham and District Archaeological Society
horshamarch@hotmail.co.uk

Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society Winter Lectures

The lectures take place at the Unitarian Church, New Road, Brighton BN1 1UF.

Talks begin at 7.30pm. BHAS members have free entry, non-members £3.

October 13th

Jo Seaman - 'Eastbourne Ancestors – A story of life from bones of the past'

Jo is the Heritage Officer at Eastbourne Borough Council and organised the Eastbourne Ancestors project. The aim was to identify the gender and age of each skeleton in its collection. Detailed scientific analysis of more than 300 skeletons of people who lived in the south of England thousands of years ago has undertaken by scientists and archaeologists. Testing of the bones and teeth has identified the national or regional origins, age, gender, state of health, diet, and in some cases, how they died.

November 10th

James Bromwich – 'The Garum and Salt Industry in Northern Gaul during the late Iron Age and Roman periods'

Garum is a condiment made from the fermented blood and innards of selected fish.

Being a condiment, it was something which was added to food after cooking, much as we might use soy sauce or tomato ketchup - it was the diner who used it, not the cook. James will discuss the French Garum industry and particularly that of the Atlantic coast during the Late Iron Age and Roman periods.

Liss Archaeology

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

Sussex Archaeological Society

<https://sussexpast.co.uk>

Eastbourne Natural History & Archaeological Society

Meetings are held at 7.30pm at St Saviours Church Hall, South Street, Eastbourne

Members free. Visitors £2.50

For details

www.eastbournearchaeology.org.uk

Chichester District Archaeology Society

For their activities:

www.cdas.info

And finally a reminder

Subs for 2017 were due on January 1st - £25 for ordinary members, £10 for full-time students.

Thank you very much to those who have already paid.

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)

Making Sense of Monuments: Landscape Archaeology In Sussex

David McOmish

(Historic England: Research Group)

Saturday 30th September 2017 from 10a.m. to 4 p.m.

Education Room, Worthing Museum

Continuing on from last year's study day on the Neolithic and the Iron Age, David will discuss the Bronze Age.



He will look at the surviving Bronze Age 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: Patricia Leming by email:

p.leming@btinternet.com

CBA South-East Conference 2017: ‘Breaking new ground’ and engaging in the past - a celebration of archaeology in the South-East and beyond

Kings Church, Lewes, East Sussex: Saturday 7th October 2017

CBA South-East is celebrating its 25th anniversary during 2017 and brings together presentations from a range of exciting speakers and topics covering that period – and beyond.

<i>Arrival, registration, and coffee</i>	9.15
David Rudling (Vice-Chair, CBA South-East)	10.00
Introduction to the day	
 Edwin Wood (Sussex Finds Liaison Officer)	 10.10
20 Years of Treasure: a Retrospective on 20 Years of PAS in the South-East	
 Chris Stringer (Natural History Museum, London)	 10.50
The Global Picture: What is new in human evolution?	
 <i>Coffee</i>	 11:30
 Matt Pope (UCL, Institute of Archaeology)	 12:00
Palaeolithic Hunter-Gatherers in South-East Britain	
 <i>Lunch</i>	 12.40
<i>CBA South-East Annual General Meeting</i>	13:10
 Paul Bennett (Canterbury Archaeology Trust)	 13.40
CAT (Canterbury Archaeology Trust) at 40 – beyond 25 years	
 Casper Johnson (East Sussex County Council)	 14:20
Curating our Archaeological Heritage: Recent and Future Developments	
 <i>Coffee</i>	 15:00
 Carenza Lewis (University of Lincoln)	 15:30
Public and Communities in archaeology	
 Mike Heyworth (Director, CBA)	 16.10
Challenges, successes and ambitions	
 Questions	 16:50
 <i>Close</i>	 17:00

Tickets – Lunch included in the price

£26.00 for CBA South-East members and students, £30.00 for non-members

For further details and booking information, please visit our website at

<http://www.cbasouth-east.org/events/cbase-annual-conference/>

or email the organiser, Steven Cleverly, s.cleverly@icloud.com

