

Worthing Archaeological Society

News sheet

GDPR

If any of your details eg: address, post code, telephone number(s), email address or Gift Aid option - have changed since you last completed your WAS Membership Application Form, please let me know.

All members have the right at any time to withdraw consent for WAS using personal data for communication purposes, please contact the Membership Secretary to do so.

Please refer to our updated Privacy Notice on the Society's website

www.worthingarchaeological.org

Many thanks.

Patricia

WAS Field Unit

SLINDON STABLEYARD 2020

The latest news is that the scaffolding which has covered the arched west wall has gone! And the Harris fence has also gone so that we can now see the small strip of the west wing which needs clearing for Bob to finish the stableyard plan. This work will continue when the weather improves in mid/late March on Saturday mornings from 9.30am to anything up to 2.00pm, depending on people's commitments.

Everyone is welcome - tea, coffee and biscuits supplied, loos on site, and use of the Finds Shed in inclement weather. Please join us.

Cheryl

SURVEYING

Sompting Fridays will restart on Friday May 30th. Our annual dig in Malthouse Field will be between August 1st and 15th.

More details nearer the time, or contact Connie:

connieshirley1@aol.com

Finds Processing

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

February – March 2020

Next meetings will be

Thursday, 6th & 20th February

Thursday, 5th & 19th March

ggmtturner@aol.com

Lecture Programme

All Lectures are held in the Gordon Room of Worthing Town Hall at 7.30pm., except for the AGM, which is at 7pm. Coffee/tea is available from 7pm.

February 11th

Dr Janet Pennington

The John Pull Memorial Lecture : An Archaeological Childhood in Sussex

Janet grew up in the post-World War II years looking at the ground – daughter of Sussex archaeologists Eric and Hilda Holden. Most of her early memories are of Sussex history, fieldwalking with her parents and observing, later taking part in, archaeological excavations all over Sussex. This talk takes us back to a more peaceful time with little traffic, no health and safety, and when every outing seemed to be tinged with excitement and history.

March 10th

AGM at 7.00pm (see flyer at end of Newsletter) followed by Lecture at 7.30pm

Richard Osgood Senior Archaeologist – Defence Infrastructure Organisation
Recovering (from) the past:

Archaeology and Operation Nightingale.

Operation Nightingale started in 2011 with the aim of assisting the recovery of military personnel post operational-tours using archaeology. Since then it has worked on sites as varied as Saxon cemeteries in Wiltshire to crashed fighter planes in Sussex. This talk will draw together many of the fieldwork results, and discuss the outcomes for volunteers and heritage.

April 12th

Mr John Mills

Archaeologist WSCC and President of Worthing Archaeological Society

Researching the life of a bridge: Old Swan Bridge and the Arun river crossing at Pulborough, ancient and modern. How do you research the history and changing life of an ordinary small local road bridge? This talk uses archaeology, topography, geology, transport and local history to study the archaeology and history of Old Swan Bridge at Pulborough, built in the 1780s. Previous bridges and river crossings on its site, from Roman Stane Street onwards, the bridge builders and rebuilders, flood and bridge authorities, and the villagers of Pulborough all come into the picture.

[WAS Study Half-day.](#)

7th March 2020 at the Education Room ,
Worthing Museum 10am till 1pm

[Boxgrove and the Palaeolithic of the Sussex raised beaches](#)

with [Matt Pope](#), Senior Research Fellow of the Institute of Archaeology at UCL.

Matt specialises in prehistory, particularly the use and transportation of artefacts by early humans, the role of bifacial technology in lower Palaeolithic hunting strategies and social organisation and the geological context of middle Pleistocene human occupation on southern Britain.

This is a half day school with a coffee/tea and biscuits break mid-morning.

Please contact Jacqui Lake:
jacqueline_lake@hotmail.com
if you wish to attend.

£15 for WAS Members. £18 for non-Members.

[WAS Study Day](#) – **date for your diary**

Saturday June 27th

Archery Day with Amie at the Downs Barn, Sompting

More details to follow

Please contact Jacqui Lake:
jacqueline_lake@hotmail.com if you are interested.

[New Year Walk](#)

On a chilly morning over 25 folk – with a couple of dogs - gathered at the Adur Recreation Ground Car Park, for our Annual New Year Walk. They travelled from far and wide – Southwater and Gosport, even.....

We were mostly dry.....

Thanks to Jim for his history of the Airport – a very important Airfield for the history of flying. Also to Alex for his explanation of the footbridge/former A27.



A few of us even managed to continue the walk (after lunch) around the Harbour, back past the amazing houseboats.

[January Lecture – Fishbourne Wildlife Park](#)

Professor Naomi Sykes gave her "inaugural" lecture to the Society in January. She justified this claim with the details that her enthusiasm for archaeology and thus her career was sparked when her father brought her to a WAS lecture given by Con Ainsworth. Having listened to him speaking about Fishbourne she decided to visit the site and join in the digging. She has not looked back.

Her fascination with bones was infectious as the audience sat spellbound listening to a delivery of such wide ranging and detailed knowledge regarding the dating and origin of the animal bones found at Fishbourne and other such sites.

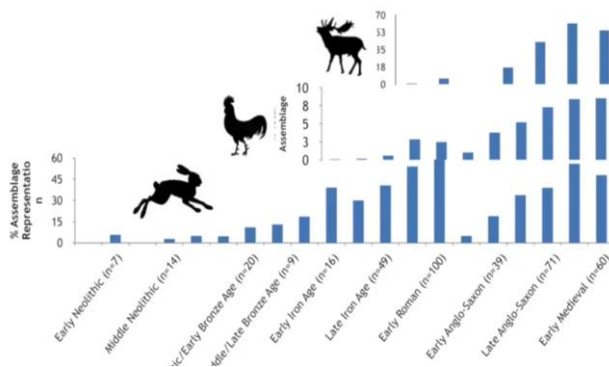
A fallow deer jaw from the Roman period found at Fishbourne proved, by strontium 90 analysis of its teeth, that it had spent its early years in Turkey but its later developed teeth showed that the remainder of its life was spent in Sussex. A jaw dropping discovery!

A widely reported story that hit the headlines in 2019 stating that rabbits had been proven to be a Roman introduction to this country caused raised eyebrow among many archaeologists as it was assumed that rabbits were a Norman introduction. With the remains of rabbits being present in so many excavations they were never seen as a dating tool and thus ignored.



Naomi has spent her career disproving this by dating and tracking the movement of different species across the world. Her research has been further applied to chickens, pigs, dogs, cats and numerous other species thus opening a whole new study of dating and migration. A fascinating lecture.

The Rise and Fall (and Rise) of Chickens, Hares and Fallow Deer



Chris Lane

[Naomis lecture on Youtube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z_ysGsihXlg)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z_ysGsihXlg

[A.S.E. Lecture January 22nd](#)

Teresa Vieira gave a fascinating account of ASE’s excavation at the site east of Tye Lane, Walberton. The site is 12 hectares and they found 123 features in 44 trenches, ranging from the Early Neolithic to Post-Medieval. Trial trenches were dug at the beginning of 2019, and the whole of the archive is now undergoing

post-excavation. Teresa has said she will come back once it’s done, to give us the full story. Finds included flint tools and debitage – evidence of knapping - bowls, including Grooved ware, and a Mesolithic/Late Bronze Age cremation in a pot.

The most significant find was a Warrior Burial of the Late Iron Age, on the far east of the site, within an enclosure. Initially the oval-shaped pit was half-sectioned. There was a complete pot inside. When the dig was extended, they found the remains of a large piece of wood, possibly a hollow tree trunk – maybe used as the base of a coffin. There were six metal bars found, which may have been strips across the top of the coffin, which was almost certainly a sealed container. There were no skeletal remains, the soil being acidic there. But there was a sword, hilt to the North, still in its scabbard, which was decorated with a copper plaque (this is currently at Fishbourne, being conserved). There was also the tip of an iron spear. Four pots from 40 – 50 AD., three of them almost complete. There were remains which were possibly of silk or leather which may have been used to wrap the sword.

There is a strong possibility that there was some connection with the North Bersted Warrior, both evidence of La Tene culture, both warriors possibly fought against the Romans. To have such a significant burial, the warrior would have been an important member of the local culture. It’s not unlikely that there’s a connection to WAS’s Blacksmith’s Corner villa. There are lots of questions to answer, for instance, when did a domestic settlement become a place of the dead?

At the NW side of the field was a T-shaped corn drier, like one excavated in Goring, of Late Roman type. There were remains of wheat, barley, spelt and oats – no corn.

There was a possible animal cemetery – containing the remains of a sheep, 2 horses and 1 cow. All disarticulated before burial – to fit the grave? There were no butchery marks. There was evidence of field boundaries from the Post-Med period.

Our thanks to James at the Museum for giving WAS the Education Room for this Lecture. (There is an Exhibition at the Novium in Chichester until September: 'Mystery Warrior. The North Bersted Man.'
<http://www.thenovium.org/mysterywarrior>

[Current/World Archaeology](#)

WAS has been given 2 boxes of these magazines – from about 2012 to date. If anyone would like to have some/any/all of these, please contact Liz.

A selection will be put out at Lectures, please feel free to take them, a small donation would not be refused!

[Research](#)

Worthing Museum holds a fairly comprehensive collection of WAS Minutes, Journals and Newsletters. If you need to consult any for your personal research, then contact James Sainsbury at the Museum to find a convenient time for a visit:

james.sainsbury@wtam.uk

Many thanks to Daphne and Roy for adding to the collection.

[WAS Archive.](#)

Connie is currently Curator of our Archive. Thanks to Roy Plummer and Jackie Phippard (widow of Norman), we have a good collection of Sussex Archaeological Collections, starting from the very first. Please feel free to use them for your research.

[Lancing and Sompting Pathfinders.](#)

Mar 3	James Sainsbury of Worthing Museum. Sussex in the Stone Ages (480,000 BC through to 2500 BC)
April 7	Stewart Angell will talk about Subterranean Sussex

<http://www.lancing-sompting-pastfinders.org.uk>

[Sussex Archaeology Symposium](#)

Saturday 28th March 2020 (10.00-17.00)
This annual roundup of archaeological news from Sussex includes talks from Stewart Angell, Lynn Cornwell, Carolina Lima, Paul McCulloch, Jo Seaman and Simon Stevens.
Venue: King's Church, Lewes

Cost £35 (includes refreshments and buffet lunch)
Further details and to book:
info@sussexarchaeology.co.uk

[A date for your diaries.](#)

Saturday 10th October 2020 (10.00-17.00)
A joint CBA South East and Sussex Archaeological Society conference – [Archaeology and Climate Change](#)
This conference will include the CBA South East AGM.
Venue: King's Church, Lewes
Further details to follow.

[South Downs Cross-Ridge-Dyke Project](#)

Judie English, David Lea and Richard Tapper have been involved in this huge project for some time. They have sent the section between the Arun and Adur to us, and it's on our website. Makes very good reading.

[Archaeological Roundup](#)

If you are interested in what has been happening in Archaeology in all of Sussex, there is a Round-up on the SAS website. Follow this link:
<https://sussexpast.co.uk/research/sussex-archaeology>

[Annual Journal](#)

You should have had a copy of this excellent Journal, either in the post, or by email. Thanks to Cheryl for Editing, and to all our Contributors.
If you didn't get your copy, please contact Liz.

[WEA – An Introduction to Archaeology](#)

Friday 24th January (14.00-16.00)
This five week course is led by Michael Pengelly and will introduce students to the principles and practice of archaeology. Students will handle and analyse flint and pottery artefacts. The archaeology of Chichester and its surrounding district will be placed into its wider context.
Venue: St Paul's Church Hall, Churchside, Chichester
Fee: £45 or free if in receipt of income related benefit.
Details and booking: www.wea.org.uk

[Worthing Heritage Alliance](#)

WAS is part of this group which has a very useful Calendar of all events in the area of an Historic nature.

www.worthingheritagealliance.org.uk

[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.

There are some on our website which we haven't been able to identify – if you know when and where they were taken, please let us know.

[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. 5 Feb. Christopher Rudd, A Wealden Wander

Wed. 4 Mar. AGM followed by Pat Nightingale & Gerald Gazdar on Barns of Bramber and Beeding

[Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society](#)

Lecture programme: held at the Unitarian Church, New Road, Brighton at 7.30. Free entry for members, £4 to non-members.

Friday 14th February

Waterlogged preservation

Talk by Amie Friend on the preservation of waterlogged artefacts using the Mary Rose as a case study.

Friday 13th March

Early Routeways in the Weald and South-East England Martin Bell.

Details from www.brightonarch.org.uk

[Local History Talk.](#)

21st March

Kathryn Ferry – Eugenius Birch:

The King of Piers

Talks take place at the Fellowship room, Central United Reformed Church, 102 Blatchington Road, Hove, BN3 3YF

[BHAS Day schools 2020](#)

Saturday 8th Feb – Geology of the Mediterranean

Following on from our very successful 2019 geology day school, **Tony Corrigan** will be returning to tell us about the Geology of the Mediterranean.

Saturday 14th March 2020 – Archery Day

And, finally, a very exciting and unique day with **Amie Friend**, a conservator on the Mary Rose project, who will be facilitating an archery day.

She will be telling us about the history of longbows, and how the medieval archers trained and used their weapons. She will be bringing in some lovely horse bows for us to look at, including a Mongolian and a Hungarian.

Cost of each school is £25 for BHAS members: £30 for non-members. Please state which school/s you wish to attend and send cheques to: Margaret Carey, 27 Quebec Street, Brighton, BN2 9UZ. Please ensure you also enclose your name and contact details.

www.brightonarch.org.uk

[Horsham and District Archaeology Group](#)

horshamarch@hotmail.co.uk or 01903 872309

[Sussex Archaeological Society](#)

<https://sussexpast.co.uk>

[Liss Archaeology](#)

www.lissarchaeology.uk

Or email lissarchaeology@gmail.com

[CBA Southeast](#) runs lots of Archaeological events, workshops, etc.

www.cbасouth-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.

Wednesday 26th February

Battle of Britain over Chichester, 1940

Talk by John Smith discussing aerial action and the archaeological implications

Wednesday 25th March

Professor Josh Pollard

Living with monuments. Recent work on the Neolithic of the Avebury Region.

[Lewes Archaeological Group](#)

All talks take place at 7.30pm in the Lecture Room, Lewes Town Hall (Fisher St. entrance) Entrance (including tea/coffee) for members is £3 (£2 for concessions) Non-Members welcome at £4/£3.

Details from: www.lewesarchaeology.org.uk

[Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society](#)

Has a variety of events

See landscape-events@hantsfieldclub.org.uk

[Wealden Buildings Study Group](#)

www.wealdenbuildings.org.uk

[South Downs Society](#)

Based in Pulborough, the Society has a variety of walks and talks which might well be interesting.

Email them:

enquiries@southdownssociety.org.uk

[And finally a reminder](#)

Subs for 2020 were due on January 1st - £25 for ordinary members, £10 for full-time students. Many thanks to those who have paid already, especially those who have paid by standing order, or by Bacs.

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)

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 10th March 2020 at 7pm in the Gordon Room, Worthing Town Hall, Stoke Abbott 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. GDPR
8. Election of Officer and Committee listed below
9. Nominations for Mrs Vicky Lillywhite and Mrs Jennie Williamson to join the Committee
10. 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 Gill Turner (Finds Officer), Dr Jacqueline Lake (Day Schools organiser), Mrs Patricia Leming (Asst Treasurer and GDPR Lead), Mrs Theresa Griffiths (Lecture Organiser & Website Lead), Ms Amie Friend, Mr Brendan Wyatt (Safeguarding Lead) and Mr Nigel Rumble

Two nominations have already been received for election to the Committee. Other nominations 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 Richard Osgood, Senior Archaeologist – Defence Infrastructure Organisation on 'Recovering (from) the past: Archaeology and Operation Nightingale'.