

# Worthing Archaeological Society

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## News sheet

## February – March 2022

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all well and hope that you had a good festive break (even if it is now receding in the memory). As you are probably aware 2022 marks the centenary of the founding of the BBC and another august institution – Worthing Archaeology Society. I do wonder what the founders of WAS would make of modern archaeological tools such as LiDAR, GPS and GPR. A booklet celebrating 100 years of WAS, collated by Alex Vincent, is due to be published and will be distributed to all members in the very near future.

Also, I would like to pass on my congratulations to all those involved in the publication of the Brinsbury field work in the recent issue of Sussex Archaeological Collections. Namely, Gill and Bob Turner, Gordon Hayden, Pete Skilton, Connie Shirley and Pete Brannlund, who was not only the author but also directed all of the field work at Brinsbury. A special thanks to David Field and David McOmish for their expertise and assistance and to Paul Foskett, a lecturer at Brinsbury college who made the project happen.

Keith Bolton

### [2022 Centenary of the establishment of WAS](#)

Alex Vincent's Booklet will be given to all Members during February.

### [Brinsbury Report](#)

WAS Brinsbury report has been published, and a link supplied to WAS Members by Jaime Kaminski.

The PDF is kindly provided by the Sussex Archaeological Society from Volume 158 of the Sussex Archaeological Collections (SAC). The editor, Jaime Kaminski, would like to inform WAS members that there are many other article PDFs that may be of interest on the ADS website:

<https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/library/browse/series.xhtml?recordId=1000229>

### [WAS Field Unit Malthouse](#)

There will be a weekend of resistivity etc. at Malthouse, March 26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup>.

Main dig, 20th August to 4th September  
Please contact Connie if you are interested.  
connieshirley1@aol.com

### [Field Unit Forum Next Meeting,](#)

[Tuesday February 15<sup>th</sup> at 7.30. pm.,](#)  
in St Botolph's Church rooms, in Heene.  
BN11 4LY. On the North side of the Church,  
entrance from Manor Road.

### [Finds Processing](#)

There will be no Finds Processing at Slindon in February. An email will be sent out about March nearer the time.

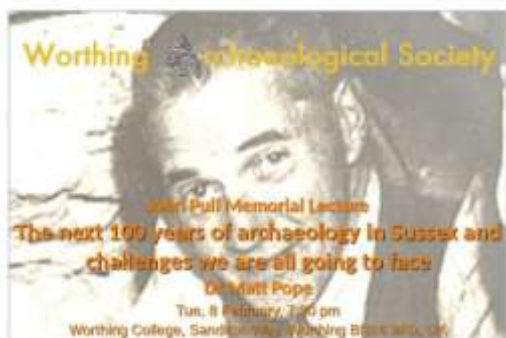
### [Processing Edburton Finds](#)

We are booked into the Museum, 10am until 3pm, from Monday March 28<sup>th</sup> to Friday April 1<sup>st</sup>, inclusive. There are flint finds, Roman pot, CBM., etc etc. Something for everyone. Please let me know the days you are free to help with this. Liz

### [Lecture Programme](#)

Lectures for 2022 will be a mixture of online and in person. The online Lectures will usually remain on WAS Facebook for some time afterwards. Worthing College has given us space for some of our Lectures in their Exhibition Hall.

[Tuesday February 8<sup>th</sup>](#) 7.30.pm at Worthing College Exhibition Hall  
John Pull memorial Lecture



Dr Matt Pope The next 100 years of Archaeology in Sussex.  
“The challenges we are all going to face and how important citizen archaeology through active organisations like WAS can be in meeting those challenges”

[Tuesday March 8<sup>th</sup>](#) at Worthing College  
AGM at 7pm., followed by  
Keith Bolton “The results from recent excavations at a Romano-British site on the Slindon Estate and an interpretation of the site and its place in the landscape.”

[Tuesday April 12<sup>th</sup>](#) at Worthing College.  
Judie English will give the April lecture: 'Reconstructing the Anglo-Saxon and early Medieval Landscape using Place-names and maps'

[WAS Study Days](#)  
[Save the date – May 7<sup>th</sup>](#)

Study day with Ben Jervis on the Binsted pottery – details to be confirmed nearer the time.

[December Lecture on WAS Facebook](#)  
Amie Friend “Angmering St Nicholas Church Excavations Revisited”  
Amie gave our December Lecture on St Nicks. A summary of the Report which was in our 2021 Journal.

[New Year Storrington Walk](#)  
On January 2<sup>nd</sup> our annual walk was around Storrington.  
John Lonergan and his friend Richard Shelton - a Blue Badge tourist guide - were excellent and very knowledgeable about the Storrington area. A large group of WAS members plus family and friends attended. Richard gave us many

insights and stories about some of the original village houses including a water mill, a brewery and malt house as well as a rope factory.



Theresa and Richard Griffiths.

[January Lecture on WAS Facebook](#)  
James Sainsbury – “Old and new discoveries on the Burpham Downs”

The three sites which James discussed were Thornwick, Peppering Bottom and Church Field, Burpham.

He showed us aerial views of the sites, plus Google Earth images. There are very many sites in this area.

In 1922 Curwen mentioned in the Sussex Archaeological Collections, Romano British and Medieval earthworks which were known about on Thornwick Plain, a high plateau where a lot of Roman pottery had been found. James' group started work there in 2013 – with full permission from the Estate. There appear to be 5 pits, mostly no longer visible on the ground due to ploughing, but intact archaeology lies only about 25cm down, below the chalk bedrock. Damage was done to the area in WW11, during munitions training.

Coins mostly late 3<sup>rd</sup> to mid-4<sup>th</sup> Century, 2 brooches, 1500+ Roman pot-sherds, Medieval pot-sherds and one Neolithic scraper, as well as CBM – roof tile, floor tile and chunky tesserae were found. 27 fragments of Caen

stone hint at grain processing. All finds will go to the Finds Liaison Officer, and, eventually into Worthing Museum.

A metal survey in 2015 found more coins, a fragment of an LBA socketed axe, and Roman tweezers.

Future plans on this site include finishing the geophysics survey, and maybe excavating a pit which wasn't dug in the 1920s.

Peppering Bottom is less than a mile from Thornwick, and old O.S. maps describe the area as 'Celtic Fields'. There are late Iron Age field patterns, with extant and significant lynchets. Con Ainsworth did fieldwalking and a survey there, in 1970/71.

In the early 1960s most of the lynchets were deliberately destroyed. Some, fortunately, were so high the bulldozers couldn't deal with them.

Hedges have been planted recently to divide up what had become giant open fields.

Scott Chausee Geophysically surveyed a 300m by 300m area in a day!

There is evidence of 6 substantial enclosures. A Roman trackway, 8 metres wide, crosses the settlement.

So far no excavation has been done, the group hope to dig some test pits as soon as possible.

In 2018 and 2019 coin finds were mostly barbarous radiates from the late 3<sup>rd</sup> Century. There was some samian ware, and in 2018 a silver coin of Verica. No worked flint has appeared so far.

If Thornwick was a villa estate, then Peppering Bottom was a lower class settlement.

In the 1890s, on Church Field, Burpham, a gold stater was found. In the 1970s the area was stripped of gold staters. This may be an Iron Age enclosure. Future plans include resistivity though field-walking over 2 days didn't produce many finds.

James also talked about a Long Barrow found in 1893 where 13 skeletons of tall men buried head to foot, with no weapons, were discovered. They were possibly Anglo-Saxon. They mostly went to Hastings Museum and were lost in the War.

Some remains are in Worthing Museum.

Camp Hill, near North Stoke is described as a 'Prehistoric Fort', but has mostly been destroyed by ploughing. James' group have permission to start field-walking there.

At Green Garden, near Peppering, a Paleolithic flint and part of a mammoth were discovered in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Future plans include field-walking and mapping.

There is also nearby a moated site – not scheduled – ripe for geo-physics.

Metal Detectorists have been on all these sites which makes it impossible to do any complete survey.

A most interesting Lecture. Thank you James.

WAS Member Brian Drury has identified a missing WW2 Auxiliary Unit Operational Base belonging to the Warningcamp Patrol and together with a group of enthusiasts excavated it. There is a photo of the excavation on Facebook.

Brian is organising a site visit and if you would like to take part, please contact him either through Facebook or his email address [brian@drury-home.co.uk](mailto:brian@drury-home.co.uk)

### [Worthing Museum](#)

Is open again.

Thursdays 10am-8pm

Fridays 10am- 5pm

Saturdays 10am-5pm

Sundays 11am-3pm

### [Saturday 19th March 2022](#)

#### [Sussex Archaeology Symposium](#)

This popular annual event will again review recent/ongoing archaeological research and fieldwork in Sussex. Confirmed speakers include: Keith Bolton (Worthing Archaeological Society), James Brown (National Trust), Lynn Cornwell (Hastings Area Archaeological Research Group), Amie Friend (WAS & Timeseekers), Jaime Kaminski (Sussex Archaeological Society), David Millum (Culver Archaeological Project), Mark Roberts (University College, London) and James Sainsbury (Worthing Museum).

Poster displays or stands welcome.

Kings Church, Lewes

Booking details and further information available soon.

Contact: [info@sussexarchaeology.co.uk](mailto:info@sussexarchaeology.co.uk)

### [U.S.A.S.](#)

#### [Lectures continue online.](#)

[Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2022, 7.30pm](#)

Understanding the Ribchester Helmet.

Speaker: Dr Jaime Kaminski (Sussex Archaeological Society)

[Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022, 7.30pm](#)

Making flour the German way: Imported lava

querns and millstones in Roman Britain and Sussex.

Speaker: Lindsay Banfield (University of Reading)

Contact U.S.A.S. for signing-up details

### UKGDPR

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](http://www.worthingarchaeological.org)

Thank you Patricia

[Brighton Young Archaeologists' Club](#) (YAC) is open to everyone aged 8-16 years. We get involved in all sorts of activities, including visiting and investigating archaeological sites and historic places, trying out traditional crafts, taking part in excavations, experimental archaeology and lots more. Brighton YAC is based at Brighton Museum, where we have access to the wonderful Elaine Evans Archaeology Gallery. Occasionally our sessions may be held at other venues depending on planned activities. The club usually meets once, a month on the last Saturday, from 10.30 am-12.30 pm.

A team of volunteers runs the club and all our leaders are DBS checked. We charge a joining fee of £10 then £1 per session. Due to a limited number of spaces you must be a member before you are able to join a session.

If you'd like to get involved please get in touch with the team using the details below.

contact: Odile Rouard

email: [brightonyac@gmail.com](mailto:brightonyac@gmail.com)

### WAS Archive.

Connie is currently Curator of our Archive. We have a good collection of Sussex Archaeological Collections, starting from the very first.

Please feel free to use them for your research.

[ButserAncient Farm](#) has launched ButserPlus: a way to enter the world of ButserAncient Farm

online with professional video content. Details here:

<https://www.butserancientfarm.co.uk/butser-plus>

There is also a blog about the completion of the Horton Neolithic House just in time for visiting:

<https://www.butserancientfarm.co.uk/blog/2021/4/18/neolithic-house-project-the-completion-of-the-horton-house>

### 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](http://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](mailto: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.

### Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society

#### New Venue for BHAS Monthly Lectures

Due to new traffic restrictions in Brighton city centre, BHAS are, unfortunately, no longer able to access the Unitarian Church for our monthly lectures. It is a pity we have to leave the place that has been home to us for such a long time but, we have identified another, very welcoming, venue to hold our meetings:

Brighton and Hove Girls' School

Montpelier Road

Brighton

BN1 3AT

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Brighton+Girls/@50.8284917,-0.1511599,15z>

Friday February 11<sup>th</sup> – BHAS Lecture – Digging with BHAS and other issues in the 21<sup>st</sup> century (To be confirmed) – John Skelton and John

Funnell – Venue to be reviewed nearer the date. Start time 7-30 pm  
Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> February – BHAS Local History Talk – Further Images of Sussex – Speaker Cherry Gillingham - Venue - The United Reform Church, 102 Blatchington Road, BN3 3YF - Start time 2 -30 pm. Entry free for members (non-members £4).  
Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March BHAS Bones Days School – Tutor Sarah Greene– at the Patcham Community Centre at 10-00am - Sarah Greene will do an introductory day-school on bones.  
Glynis

[Horsham and District Archaeology Group](#)  
[horshamarch@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:horshamarch@hotmail.co.uk) or 01903 872309

[Liss Archaeology](#)  
[www.lissarchaeology.uk](http://www.lissarchaeology.uk)  
Or email [lissarchaeology@gmail.com](mailto:lissarchaeology@gmail.com)

[Chichester District Archaeology Society](#)  
CDAS have made their talks available free on their YouTube channel.  
Lots of details of their activities, see:  
[www.CDAS.info](http://www.CDAS.info)

[Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society](#)  
Has a variety of events  
See [landscape-events@hantsfieldclub.org.uk](mailto:landscape-events@hantsfieldclub.org.uk)

[Wealden Buildings Study Group](#)  
[www.wealdenbuildings.org.uk](http://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](mailto:enquiries@southdownssociety.org.uk)

[And finally a reminder](#)  
Subs for 2022 were due on January 1<sup>st</sup> - £25 for ordinary members, £10 for full-time students.  
Feel free to pay by standing order or BACs (details on request)

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](http://www.worthingarchaeological.org)

Items for next News sheet please to Liz, as above,  
or [liz.13lane@gmail.com](mailto:liz.13lane@gmail.com)

The Worthing Archaeological Society is a registered Charity (291431)

Please note: our email address has changed. It is now: [worthingarchaeological@gmail.com](mailto:worthingarchaeological@gmail.com)



Use this to access our website from your mobile phone.

# 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 2022 at Worthing College, 1 Sanditon Way,  
Worthing BN14 9FD at 7.00pm

**A lecture on A Romano-British settlement near Gumber Farm, Slindon  
by Keith Bolton will follow the AGM.**

### **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 Officers and Committee listed below
9. Any other business

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

President	Mr John Mills
Chairman	Mr Keith Bolton
Hon Treasurer	Mrs Patricia Leming
Hon Secretary	Mrs Cheryl Hutchins

Committee members:

Mr Roy Plummer (Life Vice President), Mrs Liz Lane (Membership Secretary), Mrs Connie Shirley (Excavations), Mrs Gill Turner (Finds Officer), Dr Jacqueline Lake (Day Schools organiser), Mrs Theresa Griffiths (Lecture Organiser & Website Lead), Ms Amie Friend (Schools Liaison), Mr Brendan Wyatt (Safeguarding Lead), Mr Nigel Rumble (Lectures), Mrs Vicky Lillywhite (Assistant Field Unit lead) and Mrs Jennie Williamson (Assistant Finds Officer)

Nomination of Mrs Donna Wiltshire to the Committee

A full set of finance accounts and the minutes from last year's AGM will be submitted as a PDF to the membership. If you would like a printed copy, please let Mrs Lane know by email - [liz.13lane@gmail.com](mailto:liz.13lane@gmail.com)