

Worthing Archaeological Society

News sheet

WAS Field Unit

Start of 2021 season of work at Slindon Stableyard

On Saturday 22 May, a happy band of members returned to work on completing the plan (started in 2012/13) of the burnt-out stables to Slindon House on the National Trust Slindon estate. We had completed the work on the northwest wing of the stables in the autumn of 2019 and were looking forward to a final stretch of Saturdays during the spring of 2020 on the west wing when Covid had other ideas. Since then the grass and weeds have continued to grow enthusiastically but on Saturday we were a match for them.



It was good to meet up with friends we hadn't been able to see for months and to dust off our skills in recording the newly-stabilised west wall (the only one standing) which is now free of scaffolding, and in cleaning off the concrete of the surfaces under the wall where in the 1920s/30s the new form of transport – cars – was parked. And the weather wasn't too unkind either.



We made a good start and are looking forward to similar productive days on:

Wednesday 2 nd June	9.30-16.00
Saturday 26 th June	9.30-16.00
Wednesday 30 th June	9.30-16.00

and we welcome any members, not so far committed to this project, for a whole or a half-day, in cleaning up further surfaces.

June – July 2021



Do join us and get those muscles working again as a rehearsal for the main Society dig at Sompting Malthouse in July. I can be contacted on hutchincheryl@hotmail.com or 01903 726532 and can answer any queries. Cheryl
(Photos Cheryl, Chris L and Richard L.)

Lancing Romano-British Temple site

There was a site visit on Wednesday May 26th. (See WAS Facebook). No further on-site work is planned, but look out for an article in our next Journal.

Site visit to Steyning on Tuesday 8th June at 10 am.

Parking at Sir George's Place (off Mouse Lane) Purpose is for an initial visit to understand the site ahead of a measured survey to be undertaken after the Malthouse excavation i.e. sometime in August. The site is adjacent to the field, which was field-walked in 2019. Numbers will be limited, let us know if you are interested.

Climping – Saturday June 26th at 4.30pm

There will be a site visit on Saturday June 26th, meeting at 4.30pm. Further details to follow. Please let Liz know if you would like to join this visit, though numbers are limited.

The Malthouse Returns!

With summer looming and the digging season nears, it's time to reconnoitre the Malthouse Field. With the horses now gone the pasture is lush, verdant and uncluttered. So two spring lambs (aka Connie and Chris!) vaulted the gate to carry out a swift ground survey of the facilities and resources for the summer dig. With the roadside hedge also gone there is little

privacy, gentlemen please note, so, one feels quite exposed. Hopefully the ground is being softened as I type, thus the scene and the site are set fair for a productive dig. Onwards and downwards. Chris

Here is the schedule for the dig. We are restricted to 14 folk on site at a time. There's an extra date added for another walkover.

Activity	Day	Date
Walk over site	Thursday	17 June
Resistivity of Grids 7&8	Friday	18 June
Resistivity of Grids 9&10	Friday	25 June
Toilets on Site	Monday	05 July
Move equipment to site	Tuesday	06 July
Survey in trenches in east paddock	Wednesday	07 July
Digger for trenches	Thursday	08 July
Start of Excavation	Friday	09 July
Access for Football event parking	Saturday	10 July
Access for Football event parking	Sunday	11 July
Visit day for local school children	Monday	12 July
End of Main Excavation	Saturday	31 July
Toilets from Site	Monday	02 August
Friday Works	Friday	06 August
Friday Works	Friday	13 August
Friday Works	Friday	20 August
Close trenches	Friday	27 August
Return tent and major equipment	Saturday	28 August
Digger to fill trenches	Wednesday	01 September

Email Connie : connieshirley1@aol.com
or Liz: liz.13lane@gmail.com

[Finds Processing](#) – will not start again until September, after the Malthouse dig finishes.

[Keep the date: Brenda memorial Walk](#)
Led by Keith, on Saturday September 4th, at Slindon.

[Lecture Programme](#)
[Tuesday October 12th](#)

Our October Lecture is the Con Ainsworth memorial Lecture, and will be given by Mark Roberts
Venue to be confirmed.

[Watch our 2020 – 2021 lectures on WAS Facebook.](#)

If you need help with this, see the instructions on page 6. They are also on our Facebook page and WAS website.

[April 13th Ben Jervis](#)
[Material Culture of Medieval Rural Households](#)

Ben is well known to WAS Finds folk as he leads the Project to record the Brinsbury kiln finds.
Ben's talk gave an overview of the findings of the recently completed project 'Living Standards and Material Culture in English Rural Households, 1300-1600', which combined historical and archaeological data to investigate the possessions of non-elite households in this period.

They looked at the massive commercial growth in England at the time – through the rise in the number of markets. National income per head was gradually rising. So people had increasing levels of disposable wealth and were able to acquire more stuff – and there were increasing places to acquire this stuff!

The project covered large areas, both urban and rural, of England.

The project used 4 sets of data: Escheators records – for example seized goods – animals, furniture, kitchen equipment; Coroners' records – much of the same, but could include clothing and other personal possessions; Archaeological evidence and finds recorded by the P.A.S.. Ben gave examples of possessions listed in Inventories: cooking equipment, tableware, furniture, clothing and jewellery, tools and craft materials, stock, animals and crops, religious objects.

A metal skillet



For instance the project looked at the distribution of tableware in town and country. Pewter is a rare find in archaeological digs, but appears in Inventories.

Ben did a lot of research into whetstones, or sharpening stones. These are commonly found in both rural and urban areas, made of a range of stones – e.g. local sandstones, Norwegian ragstone, and some are shaped, some in their natural form.

For instance, Norwegian ragstone is more commonly found on or near the East coast. In rural Norfolk three-quarters of whetstones were ragstone, whereas at Hangleton only a quarter was ragstone. At the East coast ports, the vast majority were whetstone. In Southampton, just less than half, in Exeter, less than a quarter. In urban areas, the vast majority were purpose-made, whereas in rural areas there was a mixture of shaped and improvised.



The Project book, hopefully, will appear next year.
Liz

'Our' Archaeologist [James Sainsbury](#) is giving a talk on **John Pull & Worthing's Stone Age Revolution** in the Worthing Pavilion Theatre on Tue 15 June at 7:30pm
Book now- [James Sainsbury: John Pull & Worthing's Stone Age Revolution - WTM](#)

[Worthing Museum](#)

Is open again.

Thursdays from 10am – 8pm and Saturdays from 10am to 5 pm.

There is a series of Archaeological Walks and some interesting talks coming up.

See: worthingtheatresandmuseum.co.uk

[Rampion 2](#)

The first consultation is now over and is being considered. If you would like the latest information, go to Rampion2.com

WAS has a place on their Environmental Project Liaison Group, so if you have any comments, please pass them on to Liz.

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

Alex Vincent is kindly preparing a Commemorative booklet.

From Alex: "I am doing a booklet to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Worthing Archaeological Society, which takes place in 2022. The booklet will be A5 and I plan to have 24 to 36 pages. I am editing it and have already made a start. I would like articles from WAS members to include in the booklet such as someone writing about WAS excavations over the past 100 years, events over the period, past lectures at meetings etc.

The articles need only be between 2 to 3 A5 pages (600 to 1000 words approx) and also photographs of excavations, people etc. James is doing a piece about John Pull's excavations at Blackpatch as this will also be 100 years since he dug there in 1922. Could photographs be sent to me on jpg. I hope to get the book printed by January 2022 to be given out to members at the John Pull Memorial Lecture on February 8th 2022."

Please send to alexclipsing@gmail.com

[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

Thank you

Patricia

[Walking into History](#)

Archaeology walks for 2021. Alex Vincent.

June 7th Sullington, Church, village and Manor.

June 14th Lyminster The lost road M

June 21st Summer Solstice. Meet at Spotted Cow at 6.45pm. or at 8pm on Highdown to join the Sompting Morris Dancers.

June 28 Perching. Lost village and site of Castle. L

July 5th Goring. Possible ancient sites. L

July 12th Ashington & Cudlow. Churches lost to the sea by coastal erosion. M

July 19th Fulking. Village, springs and sheep-drover's pub. M

July 26th Steyning Round Hill. Cairn, urn-field, barrows and Roman terraceway. M

S = short walk, M = medium walk and L = long walk.

We meet at the Civic Centre car park at 6.45 for 7. Route maps on how to get there will be given on the day. A fee of £2 or £3 for petrol money to the drivers from the passengers is recommended. All are welcome.

Any enquires my telephone number is 07753282714 or email me via Worthing Library alexeclipsing@gmail.com

Sussex School of Archaeology –Sussex Archaeology Symposium

Postponed until Saturday 9th October 2021 when it will (hopefully!) be held 'Live' at Kings Church, Lewes.

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

Saturday 17th July – Sunday 1st August
The CBA Festival of Archaeology will be held with the theme of **Exploring Local Places**

This year we have chosen the theme *Exploring local places*. We want it to be all about helping people discover the archaeology and heritage that is all around them. We want people to get out and explore their local places, to discover stories, sites, buildings, places, people and events that make our local communities so special. Yes, we are mindful that we may still be under some form of lockdown restrictions and social distancing so the Festival will be a hybrid event with lots of self-guided and online activities alongside our traditional on the ground events.

Help us celebrate local sites, stories and the people who lived in and shaped our local places. Archaeology is a great tool to help do this through asking great questions about the places we live: How have they changed and how do we use them today? Who lived and worked there in the past and do we use them in the same way today? What can you see today that would have been in the landscape 10, 100 or even a 1,000 years ago?

Watch out for our growing list of events, activities and competitions and sign up for our regular dates via the Festival website.

festival@archaeologyuk.org

CBA SE

We are releasing a series of blogs from those involved with community archaeology that reflect on 2020 and how groups have found ways to adapt in the most challenging of circumstances. There are five blogs currently up, with more on the way. Get in touch if you have a story to tell or a problem to solve -our members have told us that the chance to connect and share has been more important than ever in 2020.

Find them here: <https://blog.archaeologyuk.org/>

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.

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>

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

[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.

[Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society](#)

Details from www.brightonarch.org.uk

[Sussex Archaeological Society](#)

Properties open again, they need your support.

[Horsham and District Archaeology Group](#)

horshamarch@hotmail.co.uk or 01903 872309

[Liss Archaeology](#)

www.lissarchaeology.uk

Or email 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

[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 2021 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.(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

Items for next News sheet please to

Liz, as above,

or 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



Use this to access our website from your mobile phone.

Viewing WAS Streamed Lectures


During the pandemic lock-downs, Worthing Archaeological Society is continuing its programme of lectures by digital means. Lectures are captured using the online meeting service Zoom, and then streamed to the Facebook Worthing Archaeological Society private group. To view the lectures you must be a member of WAS and also join the Facebook group.

To view a lecture you must sign in to Facebook and open the Worthing Archaeological Society private group page. At the advertised time of the lecture, a post like that below will appear on the page.



N.B. this is **not** the same post as that advertising the lecture previously on the page.

To view the lecture click on the  control.

To expand the image to full screen click on the  control.

To hear the sound, click on the  control and adjust the volume slider that appears.

To ask questions, click the 'Comment' control and type your question. Precede it with "Q:" so that the lecture host identifies it as a question and will read it out at the end.

After the live lecture, a recording will remain on the page. The instructions above will enable it to be replayed at any time.

If there is a technical hitch (it can happen...) , we will try to put a comment on the post. It may be necessary to complete the lecture by opening a second video post on the page.