

Worthing Archaeological Society

Newsletter

June & July 2023

WAS Field Unit

Malthouse

July 10th – 28th to continue our 2022 dig in the SW corner of the field, and to investigate possible houses on the east side of Church Lane.

Calling notice will go out soon.

Climping

Several visits so far this year looking at the wells, the Bronze Age cliffs and the graffiti from WW2. There will be another visit on a Friday in June – date TBC

Lancing Prep

Resistivity to be done on June 14th. Assisting with the dig from June 26th – 30th.

Finds Processing

Our Finds meetings in June will be held at the Slindon Shed on Thursdays 1st and 15th from 9.30 a.m. when, hopefully we should finish marking and recording the Sompting 2022 finds. (There will be no Finds Meetings in July as we will be at Malthouse.)

Bob will also be continuing to assess flint from the Upton Collection.

Please let me know if you would like to attend either or both of these sessions.

Activities will include sorting, marking and recording general finds from last year's Sompting dig and Bob will also be assessing and recording the flint.

Please remember to bring your own refreshments and come prepared to work outside by bringing extra clothing. Numbers are still limited to 14, so contact Gill if you would like to be there: ggmturner@aol.com

Finds Meeting on May 18th

We had a different morning this time. It was all about Malthouse

First Connie did a summary of the digs between 2017 and 2021, which will form part of a Report. Then John M. gave us a fascinating voyage from the ownership/tenancy of the land from Medieval times on. He's done such a lot of research.

Gill followed with an account of the Malthouse Finds, and there were examples of the most interesting ones laid out on a table.

Jacqui, Theresa and Martin gave us a preview of their Flint Report, which is very professional.

Bob talked about flint, including 4 which he hasn't been able to identify.

And finally, Connie gave us an outline of the 2023 dig, which will follow the 2022 dig in the SW corner of the field.

We were able to sit outside, a red kite did a flypast, it was an excellent way to spend a morning. Thanks to all who contributed.

Oh, and happy birthday to Bob.

Thanks to Jennie for photo.

Introduction to Field Archaeology Training Course

Presented by Gill Turner and Keith Bolton

Saturday 24th June 10.00 am – 4.00 pm

Learning Room, Worthing Museum

See Flyer Page 8





Autumn 2023 Lecture dates

In Worthing Library Lecture Theatre

- October 10th Dr Judie English—Early European Jewellery: from the Palaeolithic to the end of the Roman period.
- November 14th Dr Mike Allen—Cerne Abbas – playing with giant ideas.
- December 12th John Mills - Old Atherington and the washed-away coastal villages of West Sussex.

Theresa has produced our Lecture Programme in full, and in full colour.

Look for it on our website: worthingarchaeological.org

Field Unit Forum

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 15th August in St Botolph's Church rooms, in Heene. BN11 4LY. On the North side of the Church, entrance from Manor Road.

Study Days

- 24th June Keith Bolton and Gill Turner in Worthing Museum, on post-excavation work. Details at end.
- 16th September Bob Turner at Slindon. Plan and Section Drawing
- 14th October Worthing Museum, Simon Stevens on Medieval Towns of Sussex
- 18th November Worthing Museum, Desktop research by John Mills.

Bursary – WAS has a Bursary which is set up to help Members attend events which they might find difficult to pay for. Please ask a Committee Member about this if it would help you.

WAS Lecture April 23

Jane Clark, The Finds Liaison Officer based at Barbican House Lewes, gave a very detailed and enlightening talk to the Society, the last of the winter series.

As Finds Liaison Officer it is her responsibility to record and report finds that are declared to her office.

Declaration is a matter of trust, but with the growth of the world-wide-web since 1996 it is not unknown for some items to 'disappear' but reappear on an internet market place. During the two years of 'lock down' there was a dramatic increase in detecting, therefore new laws are at present going through Parliament to redefine what items should be reported as Treasure. At present to be classified as treasure the items should be gold or silver and a 'hoard' is more than two items in number. The new law is aimed at protecting sites such as Sutton Hoo which, at present, is not classified as treasure and therefore need not be reported.

Jane gave a fascinating illustrated talk with reference to Sussex and the South East. Many items are easily viewable on the website <https://finds.org.uk/> along with much advice on recording and caring for finds. Chris

WAS Walks

- Saturday April 1st Sompting—Sadly postponed, due to the weather
- Saturday April 22nd Nore Hill Walk—Report on page 5

WAS Visits

- Tuesday 30th May Priory Park names to Alan B please. alan.a.beazley@gmail.com
- Monday 3rd July Culver Project names to Alan B please alan.a.beazley@gmail.com
- Saturday July 15th Open Day at the Culver Project.—www.culverproject.co.uk



WAS Study Day – May 13th

Barb McNee led a good group of us through Prehistory, showing examples of pot from all the different eras – which we were able to handle.

Pottery is key to understanding the chronology of settlement and burial sites, and offers much information about technology and society.

Barb gave us a list of useful literature, pottery density charts and also fabric recording featured and sherd recording sheets.

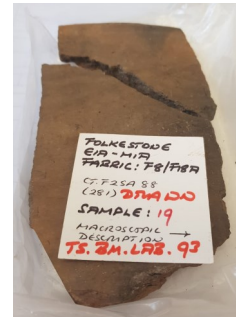
We had the opportunity of learning how to record pottery, and describe forms, fabrics, decoration, surface treatments and usewear.

In theory, we can all now write a Pottery Report.....

It was a fascinating day, thanks very much to Barb. (and for the cakes).

Barb was able to look at our Climping pottery, and tells us it's Iron Age, not Bronze....

Photos– Alan B and Vicky



Facebook

Brian Drury has set up a Facebook Group – WAS Members only – to discuss possible archaeological sites in the Arun and Adur area.

This is a link to the Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1702178780227116>

Walking into history—Archaeology walks for 2023 with Alex Vincent

- Jun 5. Binsted. Iron Age ditch and medieval kilns. M.
- Jun 12. Mill Hill, Shoreham. Site and remains of windmills. M.
- Jun 19. Wiston. Church and lost village. L.
- Jun 26. Patching Hill. Possible Neolithic flint mines, clay pits and barrow. L.
- Jul 3. Lancing Ring. Roman temple and Iron Age shrine. L.
- Jul 10. Lychpole, Sompting. Medieval manor and farm. L.
- Jul 17. Pende, Lancing. Site of port lost to the sea. M.
- Jul 24. Bost Hill, Findon. Neolithic site and possible Roman road. M.
- Jul 31. Highdown. Possible site of Bronze Age barrows. M.

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

We meet temporarily this year at the Waitrose Car Park in the High Street, Worthing, 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 £2 or £3 for petrol money to the drivers from the passengers is recommended. All are welcome. After the walks, we go to a pub for refreshment. The walks may be postponed, altered or cancelled if there are still restrictions due to the virus.

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



John Sayles

John was an active Member of WAS in the days of Con, Daphne, Anne Induni et al. He moved away from Worthing for work, but came back when he retired, and rejoined WAS.

Sadly, he died recently.

Last year he gave his surveying kit to WAS. Chris serviced it, and it is now with Simon Stevens for his prizewinning Newick Schools Project.

As John was a School-teacher, we feel it is appropriate.



Dates for your Diary:

Thursday 1st June 2023 (18.30)

Novium Museum – Vespasian and the II Augusta Legion: Adventures in Sussex and Beyond.

A talk by Dr Miles Russell (Bournemouth University) considering the role of the II Augusta Legion and the nature of its commander.

Venue: Novium Museum, Chichester Fee: £7 (advance booking advised)

Booking and details from: <https://chichesterboxoffice.ticketsolve.com/ticketbooth/shows/873633453>

Saturday 10th June – Sunday 18th June

Worthing Heritage Alliance is offering a series of heritage themed walks, talks and open days as part of the Worthing cultural festival.

Fees will be kept as low as possible for each event

For details and booking: <https://worthingheritagefestival.co.uk/events>.

Saturday June 10th 10am – 4pm

WAS will have a stall in the Museum as part of this Festival. Anyone free to help, come and join us.

Saturday 18th November 2023 (10.00-17.00)

CBA South East – Annual conference Venue: King's Church, Lewes

This is an in-person event with a programme being developed for circulation in due course.

Saturday 14th October 2023 (9.15-17.00)

Sussex School of Archaeology – Sussex History Symposium Venue: King's Church, Lewes

This is an in-person event and the programme will be available in due course.

11th November

Wealden Geological Assembly—See flyer on page 9.

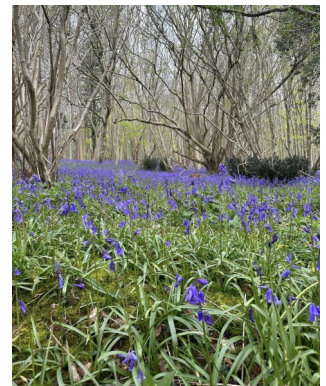
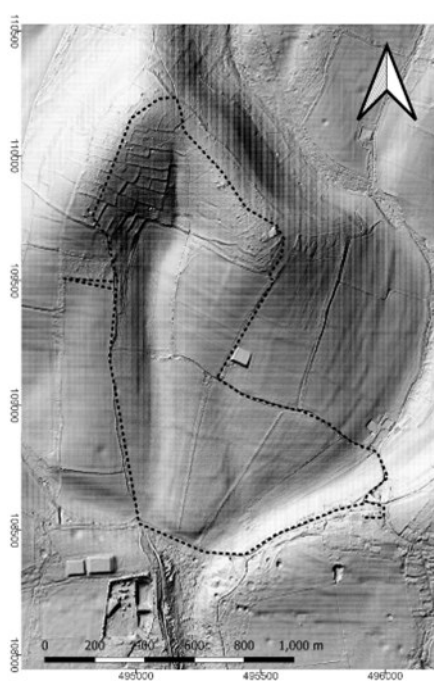
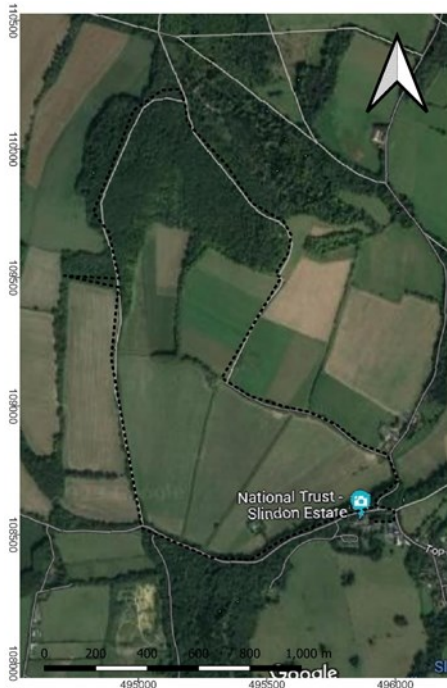


WAS Walk the Woods 22nd April 2023 with Keith Bolton

Keith led the walk up to the woods around Nore Hill with a view to ground-truthing for evidence of the field systems which appear to have existed up there. From above, the lower fields appear uniformly cultivated and the higher area, an area of dense woodland.

Keith was using the data for the Secrets of the High Woods project (Dodd, 2016) which gives a sharper definition of the field systems in the area. However, the view below (Defra, 2023) which has been constructed from Environmental Agency Open Source data and a vertical exaggeration factor of 5, gives a good outline of the field systems.

Note that the route indicated on the maps is an approximation of our tracks through the woodland. For several of us, the walk turned into a stagger through the undergrowth!



We were able to identify the larger lynchets and enjoy the bluebells. A detour to the edge of the woodland allowed us to admire the view over Eartham and identify the Chichester Cathedral!

And as always on Keith's walks, we stopped for lunch at The Folly on the edge of the woodland.



Connie Shirley with photos courtesy of Alan Beazley
Defra (2023) SU Lidar DTM Environment Agency available at <https://environment.data.gov.uk/DefraDataDownload/?Mode=survey> last accessed 12 May 2023

Dodd, J. (2016). Report of volunteer fieldwork conducted in and around Kingley Vale National Nature Reserve, West Sussex, by the 'Secrets of the High Woods' project, March 2015 & February 2016. Midhurst. SDNPA.



Other Societies / Groups



Based in Pulborough, the Society has a variety of walks and talks which might well be interesting.
Email: enquiries@southdownssociety.org.uk



Chichester District Archaeology Society (CDAS) have made their talks available free on their YouTube channel see: www.CDAS.info



www.lissarchaeology.uk

Or email lissarchaeology@gmail.com



Worthing Heritage Alliance of which 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



Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society has a variety of events
see landscape-events@hantsfieldclub.org.uk



Butser Ancient Farm has launched ButserPlus: a way to enter the world of ButserAncient Farm online with professional video content. Details here:
www.butserancientfarm.co.uk/butser-plus



Horsham and District Archaeology Group
horshamarch@hotmail.co.uk or 01903 872309



Sussex Archaeological Society
<https://sussexpast.co.uk>



WEALDEN BUILDINGS
STUDY GROUP

Wealden Buildings Study Group
www.wealdenbuildings.org.uk



Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society <http://www.brightonarch.org.uk>

Back in the Unitarian Church New Road, Brighton- Start time 7-30 pm. The BHAS lectures will be **live** and not on Zoom.



Worthing Archaeological Society

UK GDPR: UK General Data Protection Regulation

Please can you refresh your memories by reviewing this document, which can be found on the Society's website under Documents / Policy / Privacy Notice.

If any of your contact details have changed since you completed your WAS Membership Application Form, please advise the Membership Secretary, Liz Lane.

Many thanks Donna



If you are already on Facebook and would like to join our closed WAS Facebook group, just ask to join on the Worthing Archaeological Society page

Easy Fundraising

If you shop online, do consider using Easyfundraising to make donations to WAS. Retailers give part of every amount spent to WAS, if you nominate us as your charity
<https://new.easyfundraising.org.uk>

Photo Archive

WAS is developing an archive of photos, accessible via the website. Past digs are already well covered, but if you have photos you can share, please send them to Theresa and Richard on theresa_in_brighton@yahoo.co.uk
If they are not recent ones, 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.

WAS Archive

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

And finally a reminder

Subs for 2023 were due on January 1st - £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

The Worthing Archaeological Society is a registered Charity (291431)

Please note: our email address is: worthingarchaeological@gmail.com

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



Introduction to Field Archaeology Training Course

Presented by Gill Turner and Keith Bolton

Saturday 24th June 10.00 am – 4.00 pm

Learning Room, Worthing Museum

If you are a member of WAS or are interested in getting involved in Field Archaeology and want to understand how sites are selected for investigation, the processes involved for undertaking field work and how the results are analysed and disseminated to a wider world, then this is the course for you.

On the course we will go through:

- Identifying potential sites
- Planning and Preparation
- The types of intrusive and non-intrusive archaeological activities
- Excavation techniques and recording (from a WAS perspective)
- Post excavation activities
- Interpretation
- Publication
- Archiving

Please let Donna Wiltshire and Keith Bolton know if you would like to join the day:

Donna.wiltshire@sky.com keithbolton14@gmail.com

Fees: £25.00 Members and £30.00 Non-Members.

WAS has a Bursary which is available to help Members attend events which they may find difficult to pay for. Please ask a Committee Member for more details.



An Invitation to attend the 2nd Biennial

WEALDEN GEOLOGICAL ASSEMBLY

Saturday 11 November 2023 in Kings Church, Brooks Road, Lewes, BN7 2BY

Programme **Conference Organiser: anthony.brook27@btinternet.com**

9.00 **Doors open and Registration**

10.10 **Welcome and Announcements**

10.15-11.00 David Nash (University of Brighton) *'The Sarsen Stones of Stonehenge: Where from?'*

11.00-11.30 **Coffee and Biscuits**

Coastal Phenomena

11.30-12.15 Dan Bosence (Royal Holloway, University of London) *'Bumps in the Bay: Geology of Offshore Dorset'*

12.15-1.00 Richard Hubbard (Kent Geological Group) *'The Shifting Shorelines of the Thanet Anticline'*

1.00-2.00 **Lunch**

Earth Movements

2.00-2.45 Richard Edmonds *'The Great Bindon Landslip of 1839'*

2.45-3.30 Laura Evenstar (University of Brighton) *'Why are the Andes so High?'*

3.30-4.00 **Tea and Biscuits**

4.00-4.45 Chris Duffin (Natural History Museum) *'Tyrannosaurus Rex: Top Predator of the Late Cretaceous'*

4.45-5.30 Thomas Hose (University of Bristol) *'Importance of Conserving the Wealden R.I.G.s'*

Registration Form **Date** _____

Name _____

Address _____

_____ **Tel:** _____

email: _____

The Conference Fee is £30 per person, including coffee/tea, packed lunch & Conference publication

Please make your cheque payable to *Anthony Brook* and forward, with this Registration Form, to Anthony Brook, 15, Cambourne Court, Shelley Road, Worthing, West Sussex, BN11 4BQ

Conference Fee for Full-time Students is only £25!