

Worthing Archaeological Society



Newsletter

June & July 2022

WAS Field Unit - Malthouse

Main dig, 20th August to 3rd September.

Please contact Connie if you are interested connieshirley1@aol.com

Geophys and Magnetometry were done on site on May 14th. This will help to decide on where the trenches will be put in August.



Bignor Villa

WAS will be undertaking an excavation at Bignor Roman villa on the following dates:

July 2-3, 9-10, 14, 23-24, 30-31. August 6-7 and 13-14.

Time 9.30am – 4.00pm

There will be a resistivity survey on Friday June 10th, with the 11th reserved in case we need it.

Also on June 21st we will need help getting equipment to the site.

Please let Liz know if you plan to join in.

Please read our Field Handbook, on our website, worthingarchaeological.org before joining in.



Climping

View of one of the wells.

Next visit not yet planned – watch this space



Finds Processing

We have only one meeting date in June as Thursday 2nd is an extra bank holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations. So we will be meeting on **Thursday, 16th June** from 9.30 a.m. to about 12.30pm when there will be finds to process from some of our past excavations and Bob will also be assessing flint from our Slindon field-walks. Please contact Gill to confirm attendance as spaces are restricted ggmturmer@aol.com

Field Unit Forum Next Meeting, - Tuesday July 19th at 7.30pm.

In St Botolph's Church rooms, in Heene. BN11 4LY. On the North side of the Church, entrance from Manor Road.

Lecture Programme

October 11th – guest speaker to be announced

November 8th – Con Ainsworth Memorial Lecture @ Worthing College Venue – 7.30pm

Simon Stevens BA (Hons) MCIFA

Senior Archaeologist, Archaeology South-East (a division of University College London Centre for Applied Archaeology)
The Stiances Archaeological Project

The Stiances Archaeological Project was set up in 2010 and offers primary school children from the village of Newick in East Sussex an opportunity to take part in an archaeological dig close to home.

Documentary and cartographic evidence had shown the presence of a former farm complex at the site, but enthusiastic test-pit digging by the kids and their helpers has revealed not only medieval and post-medieval material, but evidence of activity dating back as far as the Mesolithic.

"Study Day" – 19th November Worthing Museum

David Rudling will lead a whole day – details to be confirmed."

December 13th – Worthing College Venue – 7.30pm – James Brown

National Trust Archaeologist London & South East Region. Content of talk from the National Trust coming soon.

Ben Jervis: Binsted Pottery Study Day at Worthing Museum held on Saturday May 8th

The Binsted Ceramic Project, a collaboration between WAS, Worthing Museum and Cardiff University, was established in 2016. Groups of WAS Members spent days in the Museum Education Room, sorting and identifying the Binsted pottery, ably directed by Ben.

The WAS dig at Binsted, of a pottery kiln in the garden of a local house, took place in 1966, directed by Con Ainsworth. Ken Barton (then of Worthing Museum) gave it 10 pages in his book "Medieval Sussex Pottery."

Ben summarised our findings and we had plenty of examples for 'hands-on' sessions with the pottery. For example, there were ridge tiles that had been re-used as drain covers, decorated floor tiles and hearth stones/oven tiles which may have been used as the floor to a kiln.

The principal markets for Binsted pottery were Arundel, Shoreham, Steyning and the Adur valley, judging by the Find spots.

The kiln was circular, had been renewed, and incorporated tile – there was a tile kiln immediately next to the pottery kiln, the 2 industries went on together. Nearby were waster dumps and pits.

There was a diverse range of vessel types – mostly jars, cooking pots (mostly plain), jugs, skillets or pipkins, bowls (for kitchen use, not for dining tables) and – less commonly - cauldrons and curfews.

The sherds were split up by fabric type – eventually there were three:

Fabric A – nearly half of the total, coarse, flint-tempered ware.

Fabric C – sandyware with incidental flint.

Fabric D – sandyware, no flint.

All of it was iron-rich.

There were a small number of highly-decorated jugs, e.g. face jugs, high quality, fully glazed made of fabric D, but, in general, Binsted pottery was concerned with the production of plain, utilitarian wares.

There was no evidence of domesticity on site so where did the Potters live?

The dig was restricted by being in a garden, but there were few examples of

In this site, the pottery kiln was directly alongside a tile kiln. In general kilns were built away from where people were living – they're smelly, hot and dangerous. Potting could also be seasonal, but was quite climate-dependent, and done by pastoral, rather than arable farmers.

Ben rounded off the day with an illustrated Lecture on ["Pottery, Commerce and Identity in West Sussex."](#)

Pottery production in Medieval Sussex was both urban and rural. Examples of urban kilns are at Chichester, Pevensey, Rye, Hastings, and of rural in Binsted, Hartfield, Rigger. There were three broad groups –

Coarseware: utilitarian, jugs, for example – for local needs.

Plain glazed jugs: widely produced, especially in the urban areas





Highly decorated wares: more specialised, need more capital investment. Beyond the means of ordinary households.

Imported pottery was also of interest – mainly from Northern France and the Saintonge on the western coast, and, less commonly, from the Low Countries and the Mediterranean.

This is mainly found in urban areas and high status sites – for example moated sites. The pottery possibly came in with wine.

From Keith

"I'm having a declutter of my library, so am giving away a number of archaeological related books. If anyone is interested then please let me know via my email keithbolton14@gmail.com and I can let you know what is available. It includes a number of SAC's and excavation reports on Roman sites as well as some more general archaeological books.

Petworth

Celebration Sunday: free entry for Petworth's 75th Birthday – 10am-5pm, no booking required

Join in the birthday celebrations with family activities, tours and free entry

On Sunday 12 June, Petworth is throwing open its doors for free to celebrate 75 years of caring for this special place. Visitors can enjoy the birthday atmosphere, with ten minute talks in the house and archaeology tours of the park available. There'll be family games on the lawn too, which is also the perfect place for a picnic. There will be easels and art materials for you to have ago at some art, after being inspired by artist Lucy Marks who will be doing plein air painting demos in the garden. The Chichester and District Archaeology Society will be doing a mini-excavation in front of the Temple and you can meet National Trust archaeologist James Brown, to discover more about finds from previous digs.

As Petworth came into the care of the National Trust in 1947, staff will be dressed in vintage styled clothing, and are encouraging everyone to join in the fun too.

Walking into History

Archaeology walks for 2022. Alex Vincent.

- Jun 6. Bignor Hill. Bronze Age barrows & linear earthwork. L
- Jun 13. Thundersbarrow Hill. Barrow, Iron Age hillfort & Romano-British village. L
- June 20. Bury Hill & the Mill Ball. Neolithic enclosure & Bronze Age barrow. L
- June 27. Tottington, Upper Beeding. Saxon Warrior grave & Rampion sites. M
- July 4. Lancing Hill & Cowbottom Hovel. Iron Age & Romano British sites. L
- July 11. Findon Park. Iron Age farm & old coach road. L
- July 18. Highdown. A possible Roman stronghold. M
- July 25. Vineyard Hill, Cissbury. Bronze Age barrows, field system & vineyard. L
- August 1. Worthing golf course. Site of Roman cemetery. M
- August 8. Charmandean, Broadwater. House & Bronze Age cremation urn. M
- August 15. West Tarring. Church & shifted medieval village. S
- August 22. Worthing. Beacons, watch houses, coastguard & signal stations. S

As this is our last walk, we will go to a pub for a final gathering. S = short walk, M = medium walk & L = long walk.

We meet this year at the Waitrose car park in High St., Worthing, on Monday evenings at 6.45 for 7pm. 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.

SUMMER SOLSTICE

On June 21 we celebrate the Summer Solstice on Highdown Hill. We meet at the Spotted Cow in Angmering to join the Sompting Morris Dancers at about 7pm. If you prefer, meet on Highdown about 8pm. Sunset is 9.19pm.

Any enquiries, ring Alex on 07753282714 or email alexclipsing@gmail.com via Worthing Library.

Worthing Museum

Is open again.

Wednesdays 10am – 5pm

Thursdays 10am-8pm

Fridays 10am- 5pm

Saturdays 10am-5pm

Sundays 11am-3pm

CBA Festival of Archaeology

Saturday 16h July – Sunday 31st July 2022

with the theme of Journeys

Full details from: <https://www.archaeologyuk.org/festival.html>

Culver Project excavation and training

Training Course 30th May to 10th June with option for extra 2 weeks of practical experience (all dates are subject to any new covid restrictions)

Further information, application form, fees and other details are on the 'How to Join' page

<https://www.culverproject.co.uk/how-to-join>

SOUTHEAST ENGLAND REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Saturday 12 November 2022 in Kings Church, Brooks Road, Lewes, BN7 2BY

See flyer at end of Newsletter.

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

WAS Archive.

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

St Nicholas, Arundel



A PILGRIM THROUGH TIME...

HERITAGE EXHIBITION

11th-19th June St Nicholas' Church, Arundel 10am-4pm

Travel back in time and discover 1000 years of Arundel's rich heritage at this fascinating week long exhibition. Explore the early pilgrims, the first map of England, disputes and civil war, as well as gruesome tales from the medieval hospital. Learn about early craftsmen and discover secret masons' marks, ancient graffiti, and the green man.



Find Arundel on the first map of England



1525 Arundel Choir Book



Pilgrims' marks and ancient graffiti

FREE TO ALL - DAILY TALKS - MUSIC- SCHOOLS PROGRAMME
PREBOOKING FOR LARGE GROUPS / HISTORY / ART SOCIETIES

office@st-nicholas-arundel.co.uk

*A Pilgrim Through Time... is produced in unity with Arundel Cathedral
with thanks to Arundel Museum and Arundel Town Council*



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.

Butser Ancient 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

@ 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

<http://www.brightonarch.org.uk>

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

The CDAS Priory Park excavation is planned between Tuesday 24th May and Tuesday 7th June 2022.

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 2022 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

Items for next News sheet

please send 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



Scan this QR code to access our website from your mobile phone.

Worthing  rchaeological Society

**An Invitation to attend the 4th Biennial
SOUTHEAST ENGLAND REGIONAL CONFERENCE
Saturday 12 November 2022 in Kings Church, Brooks Road, Lewes, BN7 2BY
Historic County Town of East Sussex
Conserving the Heritage of Southeast England**

- Programme** Conference Organiser: email anthony.brook27@btinternet.com
- 10.00-11.00** Registration, Coffee & Biscuits, and Welcome
- 11.00-11.40 Matt Pope (Institute of Archaeology at UCL)
'New Discoveries from the Archaeological Record of Palaeolithic People in Southeast England'
- 11.40-12.20 Geoffrey Mead
'Southeast England in the early 18th Century: Defoe's Tour of 1722'
- 12.20-1.00 Ellinor Michel & Charlotte Wightwick (Friends of Crystal Palace Dinosaurs)
'Conserving the Victorian Vision of Dinosaurs, at Crystal Palace'
- 1.00-2.00** Lunch
- 2.00-2.45 Matthew Slocombe (Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings)
'The Work of SPAB in Southeast England, and its 'Old House' Project'
- 2.45-3.30 Kathryn Ferry
'Seafront Structures of Southeast Seaside Resorts'
- 3.30-4.00** Tea and Biscuits
- 4.00-4.45 Chris Hare
'Hilaire Belloc and the South Country: landscape, people and myth'
- 4.45-5.30 Ruth O'Keeffe (Chair, Friends of Lewes Civic Society)
'Conserving the Heritage of an Historic County Town'

Registration Form **Date** _____

Name _____

Address _____

_____ **Tel:** _____

Email: _____

Conference Fee for the day is £30, which includes coffee/tea, packed lunch and 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!