

Worthing Archaeological Society

News sheet

WAS Field Unit

Next Field Unit Forum meeting: 19th November.
7.30pm at 5 Smugglers' Walk, Goring. BN12 4DP

We will be returning to the Malthouse Field, Sompting, in June 2019.

Finds Processing

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

Next dates: Thursdays October 4th and November 1st.

(18th October and 15th November, no Finds processing, as we will be recording Finds at the Museum.)

The National Trust has agreed to let us take over the ex-garage, next to our Finds Shed. It will need some re-furbishing – plans are afoot, hopefully to start soon.

Surveying

The focus of Friday activities is on keeping our skills going and enjoying being out in the open air.

If you would like to take part, email Connie on connieshirley1@aol.com

In the near future we will be doing more Surveying on the earthworks in Binsted Woods.

If you have a project where you would like some help, send the project plan for approval to Keith Bolton: keithbolton14@gmail.com and he can instruct the team on what is required.

Lecture Programme

All Lectures are held in the Worthing Library Lecture Theatre at 7.30pm.

October 9th

Amie Friend on 'Saved by the Waves.'

Con Ainsworth Memorial Lecture

See flyer at end of Newsletter.

Nov 13th - Jon Sygrave UCL - Flint Mines of Sussex + Whitehawk

October – November 2018

December 11th Jane Russell 'The Prehistoric Archaeology of Orkney'.

Sunday 28th October 'Brenda' Memorial Walk History of the Steyning Rifle Range, with historian Justin Russell

Meet at 10.30am in Newmans Gardens car park (free on Sunday) Tanyard Lane, Steyning. Short walk up Mouse Lane to the historic Rifle Range site.

The track is rough and the ground is uneven - so suitable footwear is necessary. Just turn up.

WAS Study Days in 2019

4th May 'Roman Pottery', Gordon Hayden, in the Museum Education Room.

July – date tbc – Judie English 'Food and Feasting' Day School in the Barn.

23rd November Simon Stevens 'The Archaeology of Death and Commemoration' – Museum Education Room.

Day School by Jeremy Clarke, Saturday 29th September . An Introduction to timber-framed buildings of the Weald, their development and dating for beginners.

This was a most interesting day. First, Jeremy talked us through terminology – do you know what weathertiling or freeze fenestration are? No need to worry as there are more up-to-date terms for these. Another word was 'Jacobethan' – used widely to cover a multitude of building types. Since the 1970s people have been working on a universal terminology, Jeremy had a good selection of reference books (which some of us will be buying). Jeremy stressed the importance of having a common set of descriptors as many house surveys are now online.

We were given a very helpful series of sheets of terminology, an annotated diagram of a timber-framed house, roof and building types, windows, carpentry etc. to refer to.

Doing an inspection of a timber-framed house you have to ask – does it have jowls? Are the

braces upward or downward? Is there a gable? Ask any of us now, and we can tell you!

Many of the houses we looked at for examples are at the Weald and Downland Museum, e.g. the North Cray house – a good example of a 15th Century Hall House.

These houses had a central area – the Hall, plus rooms at each end – the Service rooms at one end. Did you know that a pantry is for storing dry goods, and a buttery for wet? Of all Medieval buildings, barns persist the longest as they have to be designed by a Carpenter. Some buildings were made from reused timber. Sullington Barn is a 17th Century aisled building, but its timbers are much older. We looked at carpenters' marks – timber-framed buildings were generally made in a Carpenter's Yard, then all the parts numbered, in Roman numerals, taken apart, and re-assembled on the site. So, for instance, the number for 4 is always IIII as it can be seen in any orientation, and IV or VI are both 6. Jeremy also went through the equipment needed for doing a House Survey.

The last session was a practical one. In groups we were given the floor plan of a building together with photos of its exterior and interior. We had to work out which parts of it were built at the same time, which later.....That was really difficult, as the building had been built in several phases, from the 14th to the 18th Century.



To follow this up, join the Wealden Buildings Study Group – www.wealdenbuildings.org.uk

Or the Domestic Buildings Research Group – www.dbrg.or.uk

Or search the Building Archaeology Research Database – www.buildingarchaeology.com

Thank you, Jeremy, for a fascinating day.

Liz L

[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](#)

Articles for the next one will be very well received.

Editor Cheryl's email:

hutchincheryl@hotmail.com

And here's a taster – Gordon's full article will appear in the next WAS Journal.

[Between the Wet and Dry: Malthouse Field, Sompting in prehistory](#)

[Introduction](#)

Why did people settle where they did? This is one of the fundamental questions in archaeology. This article focuses on some of the artefacts from the Worthing Archaeological Society Field Unit's (hereafter WASFU) ongoing excavations at Malthouse Field in Sompting, and puts forward a social context for these finds. It is not the intention of this study to provide a detailed account of the results of the ongoing excavations. Nevertheless by taking already published research and comparing this with the rich dataset from WASFU's own excavations on the West Sussex Coastal Plain, the aim is to shed light on human activity and its relationship with the landscape at the site of Malthouse Field in Sompting during prehistory. Gordon Hayden

[Archaeology South East](#) have some volunteer opportunities which WAS members may be interested in over the winter months.

Please contact ASE on the email below for more information.

Nicola Elphick n.bettley@ucl.ac.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.

Many thanks, WAS Committee

[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. 3 Oct. Subterranean Sussex by Stewart Angell

Wed. 7 Nov. Life in the Castles of Sussex by Mark Perry-Nash.

[Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society](#)

Lecture programme: held at the Unitarian Church, New Road, Brighton at 7.30. Free entry for members, £3 to non-members.

Friday October 12th. James Sainsbury on 'John Pull and the earliest Industrial Landscape in Britain.

Friday Nov 9th Judie English on Sussex and Surrey in Later Prehistory

Sunday 7th October - A Dr Geoff Mead Walk -

Binsted: Woodlands and arable - The West Sussex coastal plain of wide skies and rich arable - Meet at Binsted Church (SU 984061) at 10-00 am

[Horsham and District Archaeology Group](#)

horshamarch@hotmail.co.uk

[Sussex Archaeological Society](#)

Saturday 20th October (10.00 –17.00)

Design and Destiny: Arts and Crafts of the Iron Age

Venue: King's Church, Brook Road, Lewes
Tickets: £50 (includes booklet, refreshments and lunch); £25 for students

A full outline is on our website.

Book online at:

<https://sussexpast.co.uk/event/ironage>

[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.

24th October: Gordon Hayden on Gobblestubby Copse: Arundel and the end of Pre-history.

28th November: William Foot on the Boudican Campaign of AD 60/61, some new ideas.

LiDAR Study Day, led by CDAS members Mike Kallaway and Mark Seaman

Date: Saturday 20 October 2018

Time: To be confirmed. This is a full day event.

Location: Eames Farm, Thorney Road, Emsworth, PO10 8DE. Free parking is available. You will need to bring a packed lunch.

Cost: Members £25, non-members £30 (if places are available). Details of how to pay will be sent when your place is confirmed.

Contact activities@cdas.info

[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.

Fri 19 October Beachy Head Light House and Belle Tout with Christopher Whittick.

Christopher will talk about the history of the lights on the dangerous coast west of Eastbourne.

Fri 16 November The Metal amongst the Stones: Iron Working Discoveries from the

Bexhill to Hastings Link Road Excavations with John Boothroyd.

[Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society](#)

Has a variety of events: Annual Conference and AGM on 3rd November: 'Portsmouth: Naval Power, Industrial City & Regional Centre.' 17th November Archaeology Section Annual Conference: 'Life and Death in the Bronze Age'. See landscape-events@hantsfieldclub.org.uk

[Wealden Buildings Study Group](#)

Have a full programme of visits.
For details:
[*www.wealdenbuildings.org.uk*](http://www.wealdenbuildings.org.uk)

[Geology](#)

South-East England Regional Conference. Saturday 24th November, in Kings Church Centre, Lewes.
Speakers to include: David Rudling, Chris Hare.
Full details on the website:
www.worthingarchaeological.org

[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 2018 were due on January 1st - £25 for ordinary members, £10 for full-time students.
Thank you very much to those who have already paid.

We would ask Members who pay by standing order or direct debit to please increase their amounts in line with the subs for 2018. Many thanks for this.

If the increased rate causes problems for anyone, do please let us know – via Connie connieshirley1@aol.com

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)

SAVED BY THE *Waves*

Discover how waterlogged preservation and archaeology has developed our understanding of life and society in the past.

9TH OCTOBER 2018
WORTHING LIBRARY LECTURE THEATRE
DOORS 7PM

This lecture will look at a comparison between a well-known timecapsule site and one newly discovered. Through the many perishable artefacts of sites such as the Mary Rose, see how organic survival can revolutionise our understanding of the past.

Presented by Amie Friend *M.A. BA QTS*



WWW.TIMESEEKERS.CO.UK

