



Issue 40 Autumn 2013

# *South East* Newsletter

Covering Kent, Sussex, Surrey & London south of the Thames

## **CBA-SE AGM and Conference**

### ***Landscapes of South-East Britain during the Roman Period***

To be held at Queen Elizabeth School, Abbey Place, Faversham,  
Kent on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2013, 09:30 – 16:30

Jeremy Hodgkinson *'The Landscape of Iron Production in the Roman Weald'*

Lacey Wallace *'A newly discovered Roman villa in Bourne Park, Canterbury'*

David Staveley *'The Sussex Roman road network'*

Simon Elliot *'The Upper Medway during the Roman Occupation. Industry, agriculture and elites'*

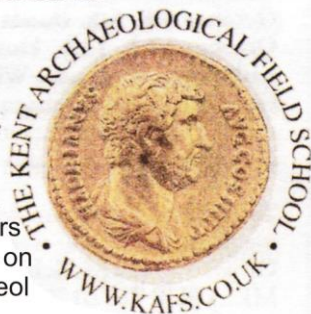
David Rudling *'Roman period Settlement and Land-use in the Sussex Ouse Valley'*

David Bird *'Landscapes of Roman Surrey'*

Paul Wilkinson *'Villa landscapes in Roman Kent'*

Andrew Richardson *'Emporium to villa: 500 years at East Wear Bay, Folkestone'*

Tickets available in advance from [www.kafs.co.uk](http://www.kafs.co.uk) 'news' page or tel 01795 532548 at £8 for members of CBA-SE or KAFS or £10 for non-members and on the day. Conference organised by the Kent Archaeol Field School in association with CBA-SE



**Members are invited to attend the AGM of CBA SE to be held on 16<sup>th</sup> November in the QE School, Faversham at 1.30pm.**

### **A Middle Bronze Age hoard from Ockham, Surrey**

A hoard of Middle Bronze Age objects was found on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2013 during building work at the former Hautboy Inn in Ockham. The hoard was found following the demolition of a modern extension to the mid-Victorian brick-built public house and lay within a few centimetres of an exterior wall of the earlier building; it had come to light during the installation of a pipe running from the building. It is extremely fortunate that the hoard survived the construction of the Inn and the various pipelines that ran adjacent. Observation the following Monday, by which time hoard had been removed, suggested that it had lain in a

shallow pit cut into the natural sandy subsoil. A fragment of the basal angle of what appears to have been a bucket urn was recovered from the edge of the pit; in view of the condition of the sherd it is possible that the rest of the vessel was discarded unrecognised during recovery; tiny fragments of bronze were found during the cleaning of the sherd which may have formed part of a container for the hoard.



The Ockham hoard, with the two Sussex Loops (one in fragments on the left).

The hoard comprises six unlooped palstave axes of which four are ribbed examples and two plain; two 'Sussex Loop' bracelets; and two spiral finger rings. Both the Loops and the rings are angular in section and both are decorated with many short grooves running across one of the angles. All the objects in the hoard are encrusted with corrosion although each object has patches free of corrosion. The hoard dates to the Middle Bronze Age and can be compared with the similar 'near Lewes' hoard found in 2011 for which a date of c1400-1250BC has been proposed. However that hoard contained a much wider range of objects including gold discs of French origin and spiral-twisted bronze torcs, as well as 5 Sussex Loops, 8 spiral rings and 3 palstaves.

Sussex Loops are bracelets formed from a single bar of square-section copper alloy, the terminals flattened and curled. Their distribution has previously been centred on the Brighton area, hence their name, making the Ockham hoard the first find of Loops from outside Sussex by a considerable margin. This, coupled with the general rarity of Middle Bronze Age hoards, makes the Ockham hoard a significant find. It is to the credit of the developer and the contractors at the Hautboy Inn that the hoard was recovered and reported promptly. It is now at the British Museum where it is awaiting consideration under the Treasure Act. Its future is yet to be determined.

David Williams Surrey FLO

## ***Courses at the Kent Archaeological Field School***

**October 5th and 6th 2013, Bones and Burials.** Osteo-archaeology is the study of human remains. The course will be led by Dr Chris Deter who is an osteologist at the University of Kent. The course will cover the on-site recording of human remains and how they can reveal information about the person's age, sex and state of health. Excavated skeletons will be available for study and analysis in practical sessions. Cost £75 for the weekend (£60 for members).

**October 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> Landscape Archaeology.** A course designed for all those who want to know more about the English landscape. Six main categories of information will be studied: Field Archaeology, aerial photography, historic maps, local history, and place-names. Dr Paul Wilkinson in the afternoons will guide us through the countryside to show how to apply archaeological theory to interpret and understand the landscape of England. Cost for members is £50, non-members £75.

### **October 26th & 27th 2013, Archaeological Drawing with Jane Russell**

A beginner's and refresher course introducing participants to drawing archaeological artifacts. The reasons for drawing artifacts and the principles of archaeological illustration will be explained. There will be practical sessions each day demonstrating how to illustrate pottery, bone, metal and other artifacts found on archaeological sites. Course led by Jane Russell, who was senior illustrator of the UCL Field Archaeology Unit. Cost is £75 (£60 for members).

### **November 2nd & 3rd and 9th & 10th. Professional Training with SWAT Archaeology.**

A two-part weekend course on how to record an archaeological site to the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) standards. Julie Martin and Paul Wilkinson will take you through the making of the Site Archive which will include single context recording, section drawing and lots, lots more! We will be discussing at length membership of the IfA and making use of its Codes, Standards, and Guidance. Cost for one weekend is £50 for members, £70 for non-members.

### **Spring 2014 How to Identify Stone Tools**

A course on how to identify Prehistoric flint and stone, and how to make stone tools with Hugo Anderson-Whymark. We trace the use of stone tools in Britain from the last glaciation to the Iron Age. A wide variety of stone artefacts from Upper Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age will be available to handle. On Sunday there will be practical exercises in the field using the methodology of field-walking to find actual examples amongst the rich archaeological heritage of the area. Cost is £75 (£60 for members).

To book and for more details contact: [www.kafs.co.uk](http://www.kafs.co.uk), email: [info@kafs.co.uk](mailto:info@kafs.co.uk) or write to KAFS, School Farm Oast, Graveney Road, Faversham, Kent ME13 8UP, tel: 01795 532548

## **150 years work at Coldrum – and still more to discover**

More than 100 years after the first thorough archaeological ‘dig’ at Coldrum Longbarrow, a prehistoric tomb at Trottscliffe, Kent, images from 17 glass plate negatives recording the excavations and the human bones they unearthed have been conserved and scanned by Kent Archaeological Society volunteers. Said Denis Anstey, head of IT for the society’s Visual Records Group: ‘The pictures were taken in 1910 and are among thousands of images of Kent dating from the early 18th century to the late 20th century that the KAS has collected since it was founded in 1857. Some of them are now very delicate and they will inevitably continue to deteriorate with time, so it is very important that we keep them in digital format. This will enable us to offer the images to local historians, researchers and publishers long after the originals become too fragile to copy’.

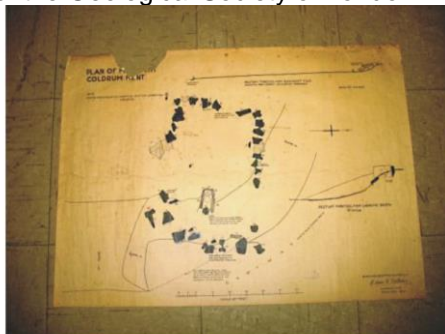


Left Francis Bennett (left) at Coldrum in 1910. Right Dedication ceremony at Coldrum in 1926 with, from left, Lord Avebury, Rev Morgan Gilbert, Sir Arthur Keith and Sir Edward Bonham Carter

Coldrum Longbarrow, probably built in the 40th century BC, is the best-preserved of the group of Early Neolithic structures near Maidstone known as the Medway Megaliths – the earliest prehistoric monuments surviving in Britain. When first explored, Coldrum was described as ‘a miniature Stonehenge’, as it was wrongly assumed that its stones had originally been set out in a circle - similar to the rings of stones that form the World Heritage Site on Salisbury Plain. Eventually it was realized that Coldrum’s stones marked a rectangular mound covering a communal grave. However Coldrum and Stonehenge have one thing in common; their builders used massive sarsen sandstone boulders, found in many places between Wiltshire and Kent. Coldrum, though, is more than 1,000 years older than Stonehenge.

The first prehistoric ‘finds’ at Coldrum were pot fragments, unearthed in 1856. Then, eight years later, along came Benjamin Harrison and Flinders Petrie of the Kent Archaeological Society. Harrison was born in Ightham in 1837. He spent his entire adult life searching for evidence of Kent’s early inhabitants, after an inspirational visit to one of the Medway Megaliths, Kits Coty, while a pupil at the British School at Platt, near Sevenoaks. Petrie, born in 1853 in Charlton (then in Kent, now part of the Royal Borough of Greenwich) was an eminent Egyptologist and archaeologist, whose many achievements included introducing, in 1877, the numbering sequence for Stonehenge’s stones that is

still used today. Together Harrison and Petrie measured and sketched Coldrum, paving the way for a more ambitious investigation in 1910 by Francis James Bennett of West Malling, a Fellow of the Geological Society of London.



Left - Coldrum in 1910. Right - Edwin Filkin's plan of Coldrum in 1910

'No sooner had I put my fork in,' wrote Bennett, 'that I at once turned up some human bones, under only a few inches of soil'. He postponed further work for four months until his niece and her husband (a Mrs and Mr Lindsay) could help him keep and record his finds. They found human bones and a skull containing teeth – no doubt to the delight of Mr Lindsay, a dental expert and craniologist. In August Edwin W Filkins, an architect who lived at Claphall, Gravesend, joined Bennett and together they completed the excavation. Some of the five skulls and bones from an estimated 22 adults and children were handed over to Sir Arthur Keith, anatomist and anthropologist, of the Royal College of Surgeons; others were donated to Maidstone Museum. In 1913 Bennett published his report and photographs of the 'dig' in the *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*. Filkins made plans and a model of Coldrum and presented them to Maidstone Museum. More human bones were found in 1922.

On July 10 1926 the National Trust bought Coldrum Longbarrow and dedicated it to the memory of Ben Harrison, its first archaeologist and historian. He first went there in 1864 and studied it for the next 57 years. He died in 1921, aged 83, having lived all his life in Ightham, where he ran a village store for 54 years and, above the shop, had a museum of his collection of local 'finds'.

### **Coldrum conundrums**

Recent radiocarbon dating at Cardiff University of some of Coldrum's bones has shown that they are several hundred years older than was originally thought and are among the earliest remains of Neolithic people ever found in Britain.

There were two phases of burials within the barrow, beginning nearly 6,000 years ago, in 3985-3855 BC, for a period of about 100 years, with later burials about 200 years later, around 3600 BC. The reason for this hiatus is a mystery. The skeletons from either or both burial phases may originally have been

interred elsewhere before being taken to Coldrum for reburial under its prominent monument.

Further fieldwork at Coldrum this summer (2013) as part of the Medway Valley Prehistoric Landscapes Project, was directed by Dr Paul Garwood, Lecturer in Prehistory at the University of Birmingham, who said: 'We hope to find answers to a host of questions about Neolithic life in this dramatic landscape, with its backdrop of towering downland ridges, a river forging its way through a wide gorge, and outcrops of sarsen stones scattered across the uplands and in secluded combs'. A report on the project is expected within the next 12 months, 150 years after Ben Harrison's first visit to Coldrum.

### ***Excavations in Sussex***

**A late Iron Age Enclosure at Rocky Clump** - 2013 has been an extremely busy digging year in Sussex. The first excavations to commence were at Stanmer, near Brighton in April where the Brighton and Hove Archaeological Society returned to Rocky Clump. The dig is inside a late Iron Age enclosure, with the upper fills of the surrounding ditch producing quantities of late first and early second century pottery. Also in the upper fills of this ditch are copious amounts of slag, and the floor of a rectangular low status structure or barn. A late Iron Age enclosure at Oving produced evidence for a round house and iron working activities (Bedwin) so there may be something similar at Stanmer. The whole of the interior is covered by a deposit into which a number of pits and post have been cut, these have now been recorded and work is in progress to remove this upper surface and examine earlier features cut into the natural chalk below.



**YACs at Rocky Clump, June 2013**

Outside the enclosure, and on the west side of the boundary ditch, a large number of 'stake' holes were revealed, the purpose of these is at present unknown, but they may indicate the location of wicker fencing for enclosing individual animals.

**A Saxon and Medieval Settlement at Patcham near Brighton** - In May the BHAS Field Unit were called upon to assist the local professional unit of Archaeology South East. A watching brief revealed a whole series of buildings, ditches, pits and post holes dated to the Saxon and early Medieval period. The site at Patcham is close to the Norman church and dove-cote. Among the features was a sunken feature building (SFB) and a complete horse burial.

**Newmarket Farm** – Members of the BHAS field unit have also been assisting David Cuthbertson with his excavations at Newmarket Farm, Falmer. The site is of a farm house built in the 1820's. It was later used as a target for artillery practise during the Second World War. The excavation has revealed walls, floors and finds from both the 19<sup>th</sup> century and military period. The excavation will continue until the autumn. For more details contact: [scienceinthegreen@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:scienceinthegreen@yahoo.co.uk)

For further details on all BHAS activities contact [www.brightonarch.org.uk](http://www.brightonarch.org.uk)



**Walls and floors of the 1820s farmhouse at Newmarket Farm, Sussex**

**A Late Roman Settlement at Bridge Farm** – David Millum and Rob Wallace have returned to Bridge Farm with a generous grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund for an excavation to examine a number of areas within a possible Roman settlement or port located close to the River Ouse. A geophysical survey has revealed a very large settlement lying within significant boundary ditches. The excavations commenced in July and continued into August. A number of free day school sessions on various archaeological techniques were also provided for those interested. The excavations consisted of 4 large trenches located in

various locations around the settlement and one small trench within the actual settlement area. The field is currently under crop and thus there was restricted access. The excavations produced numerous features including a complete cremation urn, a possible tile kiln and an interesting pit with walls and floor constructed of Roman roofing tile. A number of the ditch sections were investigated and copious amounts of pottery and CBM were recovered. The excavation was very popular with over 100 people came to join in the digging. For further details contact [www.culverproject.co.uk](http://www.culverproject.co.uk)

**Iron Age and Roman Finds at Isfield** – Lisa Fisher led a month of excavations for the Sussex School of Archaeology on a site near Isfield Sussex. A geophysical survey had indicated a number of interesting anomalies. The excavation was well supported finding plenty of pottery from both the Iron Age and Roman periods. For more details contact:- [www.sussexarchaeology.org](http://www.sussexarchaeology.org)

**Parham House** – The Worthing Archaeological Society will be opening a new excavation at Parham House on 18<sup>th</sup> August and this dig will run until the 31<sup>st</sup> August. The group are looking for the remains of a parsonage demolished in the 1730's. The past few seasons have produced some medieval items which may indicate the presence of an earlier structure. You have to be a member of **WAS** to participate. [worthingresearch@googlemail.com](mailto:worthingresearch@googlemail.com) for more details.

**The Young Archaeologist Club of Sussex** – Among their many events this year the Sussex YAC group assisted with the digging at Rocky Clump in June and worked in the large trenches at Bridge Farm in July. They plan to return to Rocky Clump, Stanmer in September when the features should be a lot deeper and much more interesting.

#### **References:-**

**Bedwin O. & Holgate R.** 1985 'Excavations at Copse Farm, Oving, West Sussex' Proceedings Of the Prehistoric Society 51, 1985, 215-245.

### ***CBA-SE visit to Woking Palace***

**Friday October 4<sup>th</sup>, 1400-1600.** We have booked a free taster session at this community excavation in Surrey. This will include a tour of the site and the site history, a look at recent finds and a chance to help the Finds Processing Team, and an opportunity to have a go at excavation on the site. All equipment is provided. Further details will be sent closer to the day. Advance booking is required at [rosemary.hooker@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:rosemary.hooker@blueyonder.co.uk)

### ***Surrey Archaeological Society Prehistoric Group***

On Saturday October 26<sup>th</sup> at 1400 at Dorking Christian Centre, Church Street, Dorking RH4 1DW Dr Paula Levick of Oxford University will be giving a talk on the Hillforts Atlas Project which is a joint academic venture of both Oxford and Edinburgh Universities aiming to record all known British hillforts so that future research can develop new questions and projects. There will, as usual, be a small fee to cover costs.



## **Day Schools at the Sussex School of Archaeology**

- 14.09.13 Soils and sediments by Dr Mike Allen at the Linklater Pavilion, 1000-1600, D2314913
- 06.10.13 Four churches in the Cuckmere Valley by Rachel Butler, meeting at Berwick Station, 1000 – 1600, D136713
- 12.10.13 Landscape Archaeology with Vivienne Blandford. Reading Room, Buxted then field visit. 1000-1600, D 24121013
- 19.10.13 Finds Illustration with Jane Russell at Linklater Pavilion, Lewes, 1000-1600, D25191013
- 26.10.13 Hunter-Gatherer Cooking with Annalie Seaman at Bentley Woods nr Lewes, 1000-1600. D26261013
- 02.11.13 Military Archaeology with Simon Stevens at Pevensey Castle and Battle Abbey. 1000-1600, D2721113
- 09.11.13 Woodland Survey with LiDAR with Vivienne Blandford at Nutley Memorial Hall, 1000-1600, D2891113
- 23.11.13 Identifying Animal Bone with Sarah Green, at the Linklater Pavilion, Lewes, 1000-1600, D29231113
- 30.11.13 Identifying Human Bone with Sarah Green, at the Linklater Pavilion, Lewes, 1000-1600, D30301113
- 07.12.13 How to write an archaeological report with Simon Stevens, at the Linklater Pavilion, Lewes, 1000-1600, D3171213

For more details see the website at [www.sussexarchaeology.org](http://www.sussexarchaeology.org) or phone 01323 811785

## ***Day school on the Medieval Buildings and finds of Kent***

A magnificent mid-14th century barn in the heart of Kent will be the venue for a Study Day when, at a series of workshop sessions, amateur archaeologists and local history enthusiasts will learn how to 'read' and assess stone and timber-framed buildings, go field-walking to look for evidence of ancient settlements, and be taught how to identify and record their finds.

The barn, at Court Lodge, Brook, seven miles from Ashford, houses a collection of horse-drawn agricultural machines owned by the Wye Rural Museum Trust, which is hosting the event on Saturday September 14<sup>th</sup> 2013 in partnership with the Kent Archaeological Society and the Canterbury Archaeological Trust.



Dr Toby Huitson, who teaches medieval history at the University of Kent and is a member of staff at Canterbury Cathedral Archives, will lead the stone buildings workshop

Andy Mills, a chartered structural engineer from Folkestone with a Masters Degree in Geotechnical Engineering, will be the tutor for the timber-framed buildings workshop.

Dr Andrew Richardson, Canterbury Archaeological Trust's Outreach and Archives Manager and the Kent Archaeological Society's Hon Curator, will give an introduction to the processing, handling and identification of archaeological finds. 'Those attending will get the chance to handle a range of finds of different materials and types, from all periods,' he said.

The field walking sessions will be lead by Paul Bennett, Director of the Canterbury Archaeological Trust, or by Keith Parfitt, who won the 'Current Archaeology' 2013 Rescue Dig of the Year prize for the CAT's work at the Folkestone Roman villa.

For more details of the 'Archaeology & Standing Buildings Study Day visit <http://www.agriculturalmuseumbrook.org.uk>.

<http://www.canterburytrust.co.uk> or <http://www.kentarchaeology.org.uk>

or apply to Dr Sheila Sweetinburgh, 11 Caledon Terrace Canterbury CT1 3JS; tel 01227 472490;

email [s.m.sweetinburgh@kent.ac.uk](mailto:s.m.sweetinburgh@kent.ac.uk) or [sheila.sweetinburgh@canterbury.ac.uk](mailto:sheila.sweetinburgh@canterbury.ac.uk)

## **Archaeology Abroad**

Joint study day organised by The University of Kent with the Council for Kentish Archaeology and the Kent Archaeological Society on **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2013 at 2.00pm – 5.30 pm, at Rutherford College, University of Kent, Canterbury**

**Roman Ostia: Urban life in AD 387** as seen by St Augustine

Dr Mike Mulryan or Dr Luke Lavan

**Madeira-The Gateway to the World: Origins and Discovery**

(Men of Kent and Portugal) by Dr Brian Philp

Third Speaker to be announced

Tickets are free for Friends of the CKA, subscribers and members of KAS.

Tickets will be available on a “first come first served” basis as space is limited.

Non-members tickets £5.00, cheques payable to C.K.A. Please send S.A.E. to C.K.A. 7, Sandy Ridge, Borough Green, Kent TN15 8HP.

Parking is available on the university campus, buses to the university run from close to Canterbury East station. Turn right into Station Road East, don't cross the bridge. Follow this road till you get to Pin Hill / Rheims Way. Turn right for the bus stop. Stage Coach 4 runs to the university. The yellow Unibus leaves from the bus station nearby.

## **Courses at the Whiteways Centre, Rottingdean**

**Landscape and Ritual, Heroes & Villains: English Folklore** Tutor: Colin Manton: Wednesday, 1400-1600

This course aims to promote knowledge, understanding and enjoyment of the subject of English folklore in a local, regional, national and global historical and cultural context. We assess the significance of traditional beliefs in the supernatural; the importance of custom in society; and the association of landscape features with ancient heroes and villains.

**Approaches to Archaeology** Tutor: **David Rudling** Wednesday 1900-2100.

Archaeology is the study of the human past through the investigation of material remains. We will explore how archaeologists approach their subject in order to discover, record and interpret new sites and evidence. If you enjoy the Time Team, this is an opportunity to expand this interest. The tutor is a professional archaeologist and has been running archaeological projects in Sussex since 1976.

**Abraham Lincoln and the American Civil War.** Tutor: Michael Hughes  
Thursday 1000-1200

The American Civil War is, without doubt, one of the most formative events in that country's history. Between April 2011 and April 2015 it commemorates its 150th anniversary. It was fought between the northern and southern states mainly over the issue of slavery, during the presidency of Abraham Lincoln. More men died than in all the country's other wars combined.

**Sussex Landscapes** (10 weeks) Tutor: Geoff Mead. Friday 1000-1200.

This course will look at the human and physical landscapes of Sussex; its communities, history, geography, economy and environmental contrasts. Field trips to be arranged after student consultation.

All are 10 week courses and cost £75. Enrol online at [www.rwc.org.uk](http://www.rwc.org.uk) or on 07597869282. Term starts 23<sup>rd</sup> September

**Study Day** at the Whiteways Centre on 21st September, 1000-1600, on *Life and Death in the Aegean: the rise and fall of Minoan Crete, Mycenae and Troy, c. 1900-1100 BC*, with Dr Dudley Moore FSA and Sarah Green, lecturers in Archaeology. The day's fee is £20 and includes a light lunch; bookings to Veronica Carter on 01273 304180 or [veronica.carter@btinternet.com](mailto:veronica.carter@btinternet.com)

**CBA-SE** is a branch (Charity No 1047378) of the **Council for British Archaeology** which aims to advance the public's knowledge of archaeology and history in their local area and to share information across counties.

### Committee members 2012

Chairman: David Rudling, Sussex Vice-Chairman / Grants: Dick Tapper, Sussex

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**Contacting the Newsletter:** if you have news, an article, a conference report, book review or letter that you think might be of interest to people in the South Eastern region please contact the editor: Judie English, [judie.english@btopenworld.com](mailto:judie.english@btopenworld.com) 2, Rowland Road, Cranleigh, Surrey GU6 8SW, . Please send documents as email attachments or send discs or hard copy to the above address. Please note that items may be edited due to space restrictions, photographs should be of as high resolution as possible.

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