



Issue 42 Autumn 2014

South East Newsletter

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

CBA-SE Conference and AGM

ASPECTS OF PRE-HISTORY IN SOUTH-EAST ENGLAND

CBA-SE event run in partnership with the Sussex School of Archaeology & hosted by the University of Brighton Geography Department (Archaeology section)

The Annual Conference and AGM will be held on Saturday November 1st at the Huxley Lecture Theatre, Cockcroft Building, University of Brighton, Lewes Road, Moultescombe, Brighton (BN2 4GJ). The conference will be based on papers submitted for our forthcoming book in memory of Peter Drewett. Doors open at 8.40am for setting up. If you want to hire a table for displaying material (books or tools for sale, etc) contact Conference Convenor, David Rudling, at David@sussexarchaeology.co.uk

Chairmen: Professor Sue Hamilton (am) and David Rudling (pm)

Provisional programme

9.15	Doors open to the public
10.00-10.20	David Rudling 'Welcome', and 'Tribute to the late Professor Peter Drewett'
10.20-11.00	Matt Pope and Becky Scott 'The archaeology of early <i>Homo</i> in SE England'
11.30-12.10	Paul Garwood 'Social organisation of earlier Neolithic communities'
12.10-12.50	Julie Gardiner and David Field 'Flint Mining – organisation, operation and social significance'
12.50-1.15	Question time
2.00-2.30	CBA-SE AGM
2.30-3.10	Michael Allen 'Beaker settlement on the Downs and the Prehistoric impact on the chalklands'
3.10-3.50	John Manley 'An Iron Age social history for the South-East'
4.10-4.50	Caroline Wells 'Between Chalk and Sea - aspects of Prehistory on the West Sussex Coastal Plain'
4.50-5.00	Question time

Conference fees: CBA SE Members and Students: £27.00 (or £32 with lunch); Others: £30 (or £35 with lunch). To book a place on this conference, please go to the Sussex School of Archaeology web-site or use the booking form on the back page.

The Rural Settlement of Roman Britain: Realising the Research Potential of Developer-Funded Roman Archaeology in England

It has often been said that Roman Britain was quintessentially rural. But despite this likely truth, several generations of scholars have focussed primarily on the ‘juicy bits’ on one of our favourite historical periods – the villas, the towns, and the Roman army – a situation which has left the vast majority of the Romano-British population largely shrouded and invisible to us. Think about all those people who were born, who lived and who died on the farms and in the villages of the countryside, the families who worked the fields and husbanded the livestock: What did they eat? What did they wear? Did they read and write? Did they hunt and fish? How did they bury their dead? These are just a few of a great many questions we could ask of this poorly-understood, yet fundamental aspect of Roman Britain, and now an exciting new research project at the University of Reading has begun the work of unveiling these much-maligned folk.



*Large-scale excavation of an RB rural settlement in north-west Cambridge
© Cambridge Archaeological Unit (photo by Paul Bailey/Shyhigh & David Webb)*

The Project

The *Rural Settlement of Roman Britain* project is a major, three-year collaborative venture being funded by the Leverhulme Trust and English Heritage, and is designed to readdress our understanding of the countryside of Roman Britain. One of the project’s primary objectives is to examine the impact of developer-funded archaeology since the advent of Planning Policy Guidance 16 in 1990 (now the National Planning Policy

Framework). The importance of Britain's cultural heritage is now recognised to an extent that it is a legal requirement for developers to pay for the mitigation of any damage or loss to the archaeology which might result from their proposals by means of preservation by record. This move has generated an extensive 'grey literature', the unpublished client reports produced by archaeological contractors on behalf of the developers, which is archived by the Historic Environment Records housed around the country in council offices. The mass of information locked away in these reports, those which relate to evidence for Roman rural settlement, is being harvested alongside that from the available published literature in order to investigate issues relating to regional variation, settlement morphology, land-use and the rural economy, social status and identity. These research themes are being interrogated through the analysis of data gleaned from the site plans, settlement and landscape features, burial evidence, coinage and other small finds, animal bones and preserved plant remains, reported from these sites.

Meet the Team

The project is a considerable undertaking and draws upon the input from a number of institutions including a research team based at the University of Reading, under the leadership of **Professor Michael Fulford**, who work closely with a team from Cotswold Archaeology, through the guidance of **Neil Holbrook**, and the Archaeological Data Service (ADS), which is based at the University of York and is directed by **Professor Julian Richards**.

The Reading team is made up of three researchers with a combined interest in Roman Britain, but who have a diverse range of skills and backgrounds which allow the study of Roman rural settlement to be approached from a number of different perspectives.

Dr Alex Smith (Senior Research Fellow): Alex previously worked in the commercial archaeology sector for 11 years, managing the publications and graphics departments of Oxford Archaeology South. He was involved in the analysis and publication of many archaeological sites, and most importantly a large number of Romano-British rural settlements. Alex's specialist research area focusses on temples, shrines and religious practice in Roman Britain.

Dr Martyn Allen (Research Fellow): Martyn is a professional zooarchaeologist, having previously worked for English Heritage as a research assistant examining the zooarchaeology of Roman southern Britain, as well as running a successful freelance business working on both animal and human archaeological remains. Prior to this, Martyn's completed his doctoral thesis at the University of Nottingham, a study which focussed on the zooarchaeology of Fishbourne Roman Palace and the Iron Age/Romano-British transition in West Sussex.

Dr Tom Brindle (Research Fellow): Tom is a specialist in archaeological 'small finds' and coinage and previously worked as Finds Liaison Officer for the Portable Antiquities Scheme, first in Northamptonshire and then in Staffordshire and the West Midlands. Tom's PhD thesis, completed in 2011, examined the potential of the Portable Antiquities Scheme in the identification of Romano-British rural settlement patterns.

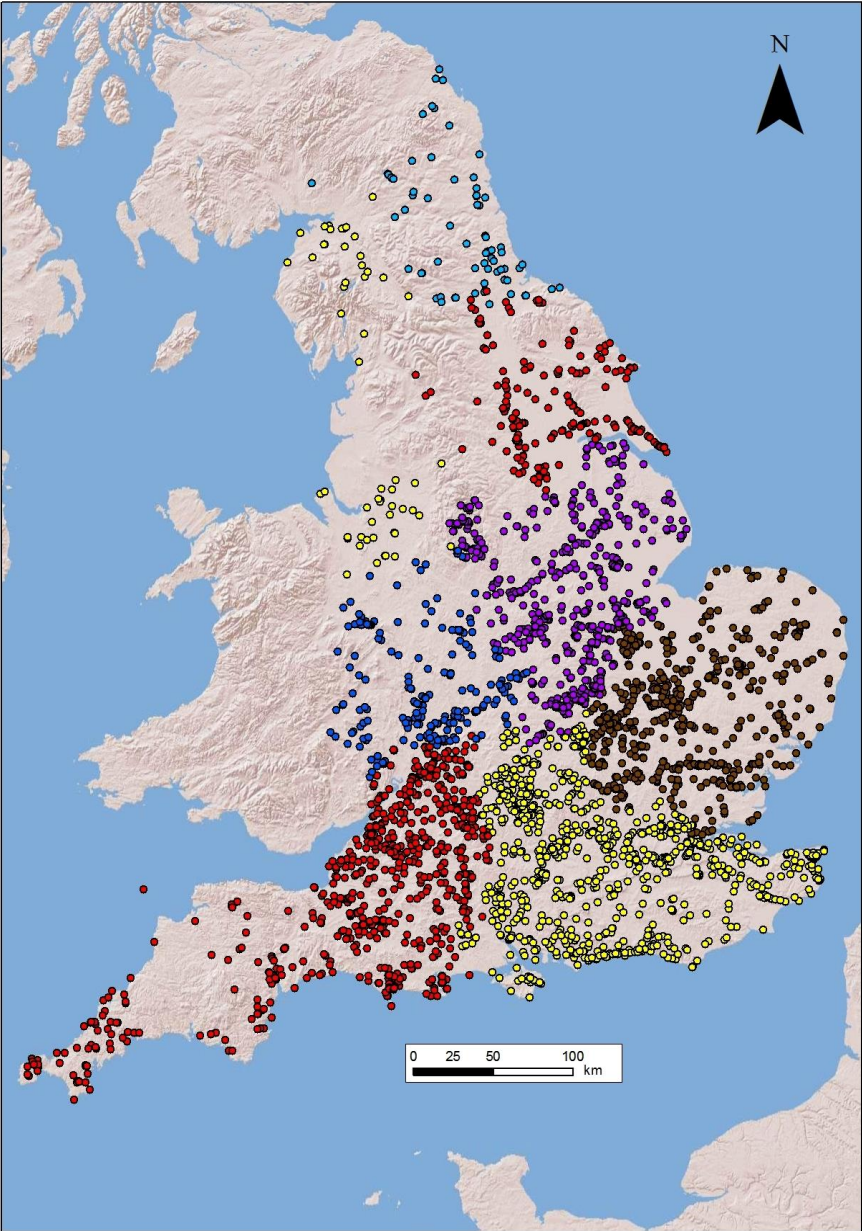
The ADS provides the project with fundamental technical support including the creation of the project database and Geographic Information System, as well as the digital archiving repository for the mass of grey literature being utilised by the project. This work is being carried out by **Tim Evans**, University of York.

Current Progress and Engagement

The project has now been running for over 2 years and, although not quite finished, the University of Reading team have made substantial progress with the collection of data, with over 3300 records of Roman rural sites currently populating the database. As progress through different regions of the country is made, a much more nuanced picture of Romano-British rural society is being built up. In particular, some exciting local and regional patterns in settlement formation, material culture, agriculture, and in burial practice are already beginning to emerge. The results from preliminary analyses of the data have been presented at regional seminars held around the country, and the presentations from each are readily available to download from both the University of Reading and Cotswold Archaeology webpages.

- <http://www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk/developer-funded-roman-archaeology-in-england/>
- <http://www.reading.ac.uk/archaeology/research/Roman-rural-settlement/arch-mf-settlement.aspx>

The rationale for these seminars is to present the work being carried out in the project to local authority archaeologists, HER and museum curators, heritage consultants, professional archaeology units, and academics in order to generate discussion between different stakeholders on the problems and potential for Roman rural archaeology in Britain, and to receive vital feedback on the progress of the project. With southern and midland England already completed, work is currently being undertaken on Yorkshire and the northern regions, with the next regional seminar (Yorkshire) being held at King's Manor, University of York, on the 15th October 2014. Once the English data have been fully assimilated, Wales will also be brought within the scope of the project since, of course, the England-Wales border did not exist in Roman Britain.



Roman Rural Settlement project data collection up to August 2014 (The different colours indicate the different regions; data collection for Yorkshire, the North-East and North-West regions are currently ongoing)

Dissemination and Outputs

The project is expected to have several major outcomes. These include the publication of an interactive website entitled *The Rural Settlement of Roman Britain* which will go live on 14th April 2015, and will be launched by the Archaeology Data Service at the National Roman Rural Settlement Project Conference hosted by the University of Reading. The website will permit users to query any of the data compiled by the research team, and will generate appropriate maps within a GIS package available for download. This will provide a fantastic resource for heritage professionals, academic researchers, and the general public alike. In addition, the project team will be publishing a four-book series which will focus on the primary research topics of the project: settlement patterns and morphology; agriculture, land-use and wild resource exploitation; material culture and identity; and, religious life. And finally, an journal article will be produced which examines previous approaches to the investigation of Roman rural settlements and suggests future best practice for the excavation of relevant sites including the sampling, recording and reporting of settlement features and material finds.

Of further interest to CBA members is be a talk by Dr Alex Smith on Saturday 20 September 2014 at the CBA East Conference in Godmanchester. The presentation will provide a more detailed overview of the project and some more information on the exciting patterns already beginning to emerge – for more information, please visit <http://cbae.archaeologyuk.org/events/>

Martyn Allen
 Research Fellow, University of Reading
 Trustee, CBA South-East
m.g.allen@reading.ac.uk



Open Day!

10-1pm, 20th September at the Memorial Hall, South Downs Centre, Midhurst, GU29 9LU. Join the team for the launch of our exciting new HLF and SDNPA funded project to uncover the 'Secrets of the High Woods'! The project team will be holding an open door drop-in session to show how, with your help and the application of exciting new

technology, we can reveal the fascinating history of the wooded downs. Whether you enjoy rummaging through archive documents, prefer field survey in the outdoors or if collecting local memories is more your thing, there are plenty of opportunities for you to contribute.

Come join us for tea and biscuits to discover more about what we're up to and how you can get involved!. For more information: 0300 303 1053; highwoods@southdowns.gov.uk; www.southdowns.gov.uk/highwoods

'Stairway to Heaven'

For more than ten years Dr Toby Huitson has been fascinated by what went on in the upper storeys of our medieval churches and cathedrals. His curiosity led him up spiral staircases above towers, naves and chancels all over Kent and further afield and into mysterious lofts, galleries and passages that were used as, among other things, dovecotes, treasuries and libraries.



View from the 'Old Bakery' chamber at Canterbury Cathedral

He has now published a book, 'Stairway to Heaven', in which he describes and illustrates his hundreds of discoveries. Among the unusual upper storeys Toby has found in Kent are the so-called 'Indulgence Chamber' at Rochester Cathedral (which

may have been used as a muniment room for storing official documents); the 'Old Bakery' chamber at Canterbury Cathedral (a former Romanesque upper chapel, converted into a room for the Shrine Wardens around 1400 and used as a craftsmen's restoration workshop in the late 17th century); the so-called 'Watching Tower' at St Mary of Charity, Faversham, (used as a sexton's room in the early 16th century); and a blocked staircase to the lost upper chapel of St Blaise at Canterbury Cathedral (probably used for storing candles or documents).

'Stairway to Heaven' will be formally launched at the University of Kent this autumn (2014). It is published by Oxbow Books at £35 RRP and is available from www.oxbowbooks.com, www.amazon.co.uk and other outlets. Signed copies can be ordered direct from Toby Huitson (email huitsont@canterbury-cathedral.org) for £30 (cash payments, collection in person only).

The Grand 50th and 100th Anniversary Conference

A joint study day organised by The University of Kent with the Kent Archaeological Society and the Council for Kentish Archaeology on **Saturday 18th October 2014** from **2.00pm to 5.00 pm** at Rutherford College, University of Kent, Canterbury

If the Kaiser Should Come - Defending Kent against invasion during the Great War, by Victor Smith (Heritage Defence Committee)

50 Years of the Council for Kentish Archaeology - then and now by Dr Brian Philp, (Chairman, Council for Kentish Archaeology)

Britain and the Great War - A Nation in Arms? By Professor Ian Beckett, History Dept. University of Kent

Tickets are free for Friends of the CKA, KAR subscribers and members of KAS. Tickets £6.00 are available from the CKA, 7, Sandy Ridge, Borough Green, TN15 8HP; cheques payable to the CKA. Please send S.A.E. Parking available on the university campus. Buses to the university from near Canterbury East station.

Preparing for invasion at Allhallows and Grain

An opportunity to enjoy guided tours of invasion defences on Kent's Hoo Peninsula and the Isle of Grain - an area rich in military history - has been arranged by the Kent Archaeological Society, the Friends of Grain Coastal Park and Bourne Leisure. As seen recently on BBC Four's 'The Flying Archaeologist,' the area bristles with mysterious remains of forts and other installations erected over a period of 150 years.

The event, on Saturday October 25 (2014), will begin at 10.45 am at Slough Fort, Allhallows-on-Sea, built in 1867 to stop French (and later German) invaders from storming ashore and racing across the Peninsula to capture Chatham Dockyard. Victor Smith, chairman of the KAS's Historic Defences Committee, will describe work-in-

progress on the restoration of the fort's massive gun emplacements and explain how the guns could be aimed at warships approaching up the Thames. Victor will also describe the workings of the earlier 'pop up' guns which rose up to fire and recoiled back down for concealment. One of the emplacements for these can still be seen. Abandoned for many years, and recently used as a caravan park, the fort is being cleared of debris and undergrowth by community archaeologists and contractors for its owners, Bourne Leisure,



Left: Reconstruction drawing by Chris Forsey of a gun battery at Slough Fort
Right: One of the gun emplacements that visitors to Slough Fort will visit

In the afternoon there will be a walk through Grain Coastal Park, with verdant trails and fine river views. Michael Dale will describe the rich history and many curiosities of this former military landscape, and the guns that could 'cross-fire' with those at Sheerness to defend the River Medway.

To book a place, telephone Craig Austin at Bourne Leisure on 01634 270385 or email craig.austin@bourne-leisure.co.uk. Tickets cost £5, payable on arrival. Details of the event can be found at <http://kenthistoricdefences.wordpress.com/diary/>. The KAS Historic Defences Committee is a new group that will work with like-minded individuals and organizations to search for relics and records of Kent's fortifications dating from the Bronze Age to the Cold War. Contact Victor Smith at victor.defcon1@gmail.com for more details, including opportunities for volunteers.

Naming names at Canterbury conference

The origins of Kent's names and nicknames will be discussed at a conference at the University of Kent at Canterbury on Saturday November 1st. Five experts on the subject will speak at the event, organized by the Kent Archaeological Society and the university's Centre for Medieval and Early Modern Studies.

Dr Paul Cullen - Surnames derived from nicknames, and Canterbury's street names and place names.

Duncan Harrington – The Chartham Charters

Dr Sheila Sweetinburgh - An 'altercation' on August 10 1436 near St Lawrence's Hospital in Canterbury

Ciaran Arthur - The liturgical nature of Anglo-Saxon charms

Dr Shaun Tyas - Football club nicknames and how King Egbert of Wessex's conquest of Kent is challenging the study of the county's names

Tickets for the conference cost £12 each. To download the full programme and a booking form visit <http://www.kentarchaeology.org.uk/kas-news/day-conference-on-kent-place-names> or contact Val Barrand Davies at 275 Lonsdale Drive, Rainham, Kent, ME8 9JT (phone 07947 583327, email placenames@kentarchaeology.org.uk)

Surrey Archaeological Society Annual Research Conference

Saturday November 15th at the Peace Memorial Hall, Ashted, Surrey

09.30 Registration

10.00 Opening Remarks: Chairman: John Manley

10.05 Introduction: David Bird

10.15 Prehistory in Surrey: Where from Here? Jon Cotton

11.25 The Late Iron Age to early Saxon period: David Bird

11.45 Later Saxon and Medieval: Richard Savage

13.30 Introduction to the Afternoon: John Manley

13.40 Social & economic change since the Reformation: Catherine Ferguson

14.10 Industrialisation and technology: Pam Taylor

15.10 Taking Concrete Decisions: Tony Howe

15.40 Discussion: David Calow & Richard Savage

15.55 Closing Remarks: John Manley

16.00 SyAS AGM

Courses at the Kent Archaeological Field School

October 4th and 5th - Bones and Burials with Chris Deter

October 25th & 26th Archaeological Drawing with Jane Russell

October How to Identify Stone Tools with Hugo Anderson-Whymark

Professional Training with SWAT Archaeology; a weekend course with Julie Martin and Paul Wilkinson

For more details and booking forms, also some field trips, see <http://www.kafs.co.uk> or email info@kafs.co.uk, tel: 01795 532548 or 07885 700112.

Courses at the Sussex School of Archaeology

13th Sept at Bentley Country Park - Prehistoric foraging - Paul Webster

20th at Mays Farm, Selmeaton - Fieldwalking; from collection to reporting - David Millum

27th Sept at Mays Farm, Selmeaton - Soils and sediments - Mike Allen

*4th Oct at Mays Farm, Selmeaton - Flintwork illustration - Jane Russell

11th Oct at Bentley Country Park - Hunter-gatherer cooking - Annalie Seaman

11th Oct at Brighton - Identifying human bones - Sarah Green

18th Oct at Buxted Reading Room - Landscape archaeology - Vivienne Blandford

25th Oct at Mays Farm - Maritime archaeology - Dudley Moore & Sarah Green

8th Nov at Mays Farm - Finds recording & management - Luke Barber

*15th Nov at Mays Farm, Selmeston - Pottery illustration - Jane Russell

22th Nov at Mays Farm, Selmeston - Publishing Archaeology - John Manley

29th Nov at Lewes Castle - Tudors in Sussex - Helen Poole

*6th Dec at Mays Farm - Illustrating metalwork & other artefacts - Jane Russell

Fee: £40 per course except those marked * which will cost £110 if all are booked together. For more details and booking contact: <http://www.sussexarchaeology.org>, info@sussexarchaeology.co.uk or 01323 811785

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, Vice-Chairman / Grants: Dick Tapper, Treasurer: John Funnell; Secretary: Rose Hooker; Newsletter Editor: Judie English, Education Liaison Officer: Richard Taylor

Other members:

Peter Youngs, Anne Sassin Allen, Martyn Allen Phil Stanley, David Worsell, Hayley Forsyth, Shiela Broomfield, Nathalie Cohen Andy Seaman and Simon Elliott

CBA Trustee: Joe Flatman, Surrey

Enquiries and Membership: Dave Worsell, 19, College Road, Seaford, East Sussex BN25 1JD, david.worsell@tiscali.co.uk

Contacting the Newsletter: if you have news that you think might be of interest to people in the South Eastern region please contact the editor: Judie English, 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.

SEE US ON FACEBOOK – ADDRESS: CBA South East

And on Twitter at: <https://twitter.com/CBASouthEast>

CBA-SE website: www.cbase.org.uk

Booking form for the CBA-SE Conference

There are three different ways to book

- Complete the booking form below and post it to us with a cheque
- Complete this form and return by post or email, and make an instant payment from your bank, details below
- Drop in to the SSA office to enrol in person. We are usually open Monday to Friday 9am-5pm, but might be out on site so please call to arrange first: 01323 811785

Title: First name: Surname:

Address:

Tel: day /eve:

Email address:

Total (CBA SE members and full-time students £27, non-members £30): £

Lunch option required (£5) (please tick requirements): meat option

vegetarian option

Please state if you have any special dietary requirements :

Grand total:

Conference fees should be fully paid in advance. Regretfully we are not yet able to take a payment using credit/debit cards.

Please mark an X in the relevant box. For your preferred method of payment;

I enclose a cheque/postal order payable to: The Sussex School of Archaeology

Instant transfer payment to the SSA bank account as follows:

Bank: The Royal Bank of Scotland; Account number—10870638; Sort code 16-19-15

Account name— The Sussex School of Archaeology Ltd.

Payee reference—please use the code 'CBASE' followed by your surname

Signed:

Date:

Please return form to: Unit 12, Mays Farm, Selmeston, Polegate, East Sussex, BN26 6TS 01323 811785; info@sussexarchaeology.co.uk; www.sussexarchaeology.co.uk

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