

Dear Members,

First of all, may I wish you all a very Happy New Year, in the profound hope that before too long life will start returning to something resembling normal and that we can all get back out into the field, museums, libraries and archives and get exploring again.

I have been asked to introduce myself as the new secretary of CBA SE. Although Rose, from whom I take over, is herself petite, her metaphorical shoes are disproportionately large. The amount she has done for the group is immense and we are very grateful that she remains on the committee as a trustee and editor of the e-letter.

I was a late entrant to the world of Archaeology and only started studying at the University of Kent's Tonbridge centre (now sadly defunct) once my youngest started school. I am deeply appreciative of the opportunity I had to study in this way and regret that access to extra-mural courses is now so much more difficult.

I joined the committee of CBA SE as a second Kent representative in 2017, I am an active member of the Kent Archaeological Society, serving both as a trustee and as Honorary Curator. I enjoy both fieldwork and academic research and it is fair to say that one way and another archaeology is nearly a full-time occupation.

As the CBA we encourage the young to get involved through the Young Archaeologists Clubs. For those of us who missed that boat, I would say it's never too late! There is always some aspect of archaeology that you can get involved with and that will provide you with intellectual stimulation, practical activity and the companionship of like-minded people.

Elizabeth Blanning
CBA-SE Secretary

CBA NEWS

Thursday 4th February 2021 (11.30 – 14.00)

Council for British Archaeology AGM (online)

CBA members (only) are encouraged to join from 11:30am for the AGM, where you can hear big news about our future plans. The meeting will then be opened up to all from 12:30pm.

This will be followed by the Marsh Awards and the Beatrice De Cardi Lecture will be delivered by Raksha Dave (inset), a familiar name from our TV screens and a CBA London committee member who cut her teeth as a member of the Young Archaeologists' Club and will be followed by the launch of the 2021 Festival of Archaeology.

We have big plans for 2021, with much-needed investment in our digital systems and a renewed direction that places our members at the heart of what we do and encourages people from every background to join us in discovering the joy and value of archaeology. These plans will be outlined at our AGM in March, which will be held digitally for the first time.

CBA Blogs

We are releasing a series of blogs from those involved with community archaeology that reflect on 2020 and how groups have found ways to adapt in the most challenging of circumstances. There are five blogs currently up, with more on the way. Get in touch if you have a story to tell or a problem to solve - our members have told us that the chance to connect and share has been more important than ever in 2020.

Find them here: <https://blog.archaeologyuk.org/>

Events

Tuesday 12th January 2021 (10.00 – 12.30)

Sussex Archaeological Society – **Walk: In the Paw Prints of our Ancestors**

Walk with resident archaeologist Dr Rob Symmons and his dog and find out more about Fishbourne Palace and the surrounding area.

Cost £8 and booking essential.

Book via palacebookings@sussexpast.co.uk

Please note that this event could be subject to cancellation.

Saturday 6th February 2021 (14.00 – 16.00)

Butser Ancient Farm – **Imbolc: Celtic Spring Festival**

An afternoon to celebrate the end of winter. Hosted by Jonathon Huet the afternoon includes storytelling, chanting, poetry, a fire ceremony and a warming drink.

Cost: £15 per head

Booking essential via: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/butserancientfarm/t-goplz>

Saturday 13th February 2021 (10.00) to Sunday 21st February 2021 (16.00)

Butser Ancient Farm – **Half term events**

During this half term week you can explore ancient worlds with a themed trail, hands on activities and a cosy fire.

Normal admission fees will apply and booking will open in the first week of February.

Further information from <https://www.butserancientfarm.co.uk/whats-on/2021/2/13/february-half-term>

Thursday 10th – Thursday 17th June 2021

Sussex School of Archaeology – **Tour of Hadrian's Wall and the Antonine Wall**

Baxter Hoare Travel in association with the Sussex School of Archaeology will be running a tour of various archaeological sites in the north of Britain.

Prices start at £1349 per person based on 2 sharing.

Dr David Rudling will be the tour leader.

ATOL and ABTA protected.

To book your place or get more information, including the full itinerary contact: Baxter Hoare Travel, 61 Great Dover Street, London SE1 4YF: Telephone 0207 404 5492 or e-mail:

enquiries@baxterhoare.com and ask about the Hadrian's Wall Tour.



Conferences and Symposia

Saturday 27th February 2021 (10.00-13.00)

Surrey Archaeological Society – **Annual Symposium, part 1**

This will be an online event bookable from <https://www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk/content/annual-symposium-part-1> via Paypal.

Cost £5 per household for two half day events.

The programme is:

10.00 Chair: Tim Wilcock

10.05 *Lidar as a citizen science tool – a Kent case study*: Dr Anne Sassin; Kent Downs AONB

10.40 *The distribution of the Mesolithic axe over Surrey's geology*: Chris Taylor: SyAS

11.15 COFFEE/TEA

11.30 *St Catherine's Hill cave, Guildford*: Dr Michael Shapland: ASE

12.10 *Medieval Spirituality*: Dr Catherine Ferguson: SyAS

12.40 Q&A

13.00 Close

Saturday 13th March 2021 (10.00 – 13.00)

Surrey Archaeological Society – **Annual Symposium, part 2**

This online event is bookable from <https://www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk/content/annual-symposium-part-2> via Paypal.

The programme is:

10.00 Chair: Tim Wilcock

10.05 *Cocks Farm Abinger, excavation update*: Emma Corke: SyAS

10.40 *Ewell pits and quarries*: Rebecca Haslam; PCA

11.15 COFFEE/TEA

11.30 *Prehistoric and early historic routeways of the Weald and Downland in South East England*: Prof. Martin Bell: University of Reading

12.10 *Recent Finds in Surrey*: Dr Simon Maslin; Surrey FLO

12.45 Q&A

13.00 Close

Saturday 27th March 2021 (9.00-17.00)

Sussex School of Archaeology – **Sussex Archaeology Symposium**

Keep this date in your diary. Further information will be available in due course but the present uncertainty means that it cannot yet be confirmed as either a physical or digital event.

Saturday 17th April 2021 (9.00-17.00)

Sussex Archaeological Society and CBA South East – **Archaeology and climate change**

This will be the theme of the joint CBA South East and Sussex Archaeological Society Conference. The Speakers will be Lara Band, Professor Martin Bell, Professor John Boardman, Dr Hannah Fluck, Tor Lawrence, Professor Robert van De Noort, Dr Robyn Pender, Dr Matt Pope and Dr Marcy Rockman.

If restrictions are still in place then this event will take place virtually. More information will be available in the next e-letter.



Courses

The Rottingdean Whiteway Centre is running a full programme of courses. Many will be physical meetings and may be subject to change due to Covid, and some are already scheduled to be held via Zoom. There are three courses of interest to archaeologists and historians which all start in January and run for 10 weeks at a cost of £84.

Wednesday 13th January 2021 (10.30 – 12.30)

The Romans in Sussex, Kent and Surrey

Led by Dr David Rudling this course will examine aspects of life in South East England during the Roman period. This is scheduled to be a physical meeting.

Further information and booking: enrolments@rwc.org.uk

Thursday 14th January 2021 (10.00 – 12.00)

Prehistoric Religion and Ritual

This course will be held via ZOOM and will be led by Dr Judie English looking at prehistoric sites and artefacts from around the world and use them to illustrate how human needs have shaped beliefs and rituals.

Further information and booking: enrolments@rwc.org.uk

Friday 15th January 2021 (10.00 – 12.00)

Landscapes of South East England

This course will be held via ZOOM and will be led by Dr Geoff Mead studying some of the less well known of the varied landscapes of Kent, Surrey and Sussex such as the Surrey Heaths and the North Kent marshes.

Further information and booking: enrolments@rwc.org.uk

Monday 25th January – Friday 29th January 2021

Chartered Institute for Archaeology – Innovation Festival

Free online sessions/workshops/webinars showcasing innovative practices and approaches with a wider discussion on the barriers and challenges to implement innovation in archaeological research.

Information and booking from www.archaeologists.net/civicrm/event/info

Lectures and talks

While unable to hold these events as physical meetings many local groups are holding online meetings for members only. Do check your local group or society to see what they can offer.

However, the Surrey Industrial History Group has opened attendance to their Zoom meetings to all:

Contact: meetings@sihg.org.uk for information.

The Spring programme is as follows:

2021

7 January

Historic Agriculture in SE England / Geoffrey Mead

21 January

Renewable Energy - Is it too late!! / Richard Rumble

4 February

Daniel Gooch - Brunel's Locomotive Engineer / John McGuinness

18 February

Guildford Industries / David Rose

4 March

Calcutta and Beyond -India's Industrial Heritage / Paul Whittle

18 March

Barnes Wallis and his Inventions / Peter Hoar

Some other online talks are open to all, but do check before booking.

Friday 15th January 2021 (19.30)

Lewes Lecture – A Sussex Hall House of 1473

A talk by Peter Varlow on the architecture, archaeology and documentary history of a typical hall house in the Weald of Sussex.

More information to be added in due course since cancellation is still possible.

Contact www.leweshistory.org.uk

Wednesday 20th January 2021 (19.30)

University of Sussex Archaeological Society – The 2019 excavations at Walburton, West Sussex

A talk by Teresa Viera unveiling an extraordinary Late Iron Age ‘warrior’ burial.

Further information to be available in due course.

Contact info@usas.org.uk

Thursday 21st January 2021 (18.30)

Novium Museum – Bog Bodies: Face to Face with the Past

A talk by Dr Melanie Giles (University of Manchester) showing how the exceptional preservation of these bodies allows us to understand details of their lives and deaths.

Free but booking essential via: <https://chichesterboxoffice.ticketsolve.com/shows.873616086>

Tuesday 26th January 2021 (18.30-19.30)

City of Westminster Libraries and Archives – Medieval Building Myths – The Folklore and Archaeology of Historic Buildings.

A free online lecture via Teams on secret passages, ships timbers and spiral staircases.

Book via: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mediaeval-building-myths-the-folklore-archaeology-of-historic-buildings-tickets-130782944307>

Grants

The CBA South East has been able to offer grants to suitable archaeological projects for a number of years. The types of project vary and have included community activities, research, excavation, and support towards publication. A good number of excavations have had CBASE support, over all the region.

Some of the funding has gone towards the cost of hiring equipment. Some archaeological groups have been supported with help towards the purchase of specialist equipment. Geophysical projects have been supported in the past, as have school digs. Projects that offer encouragement and field work for school children is often supported. Other grants have been awarded for archaeological training courses, and teacher training. Research has had grants for numerous investigations including the studies of Valencian tiles, Palaeolithic finds in the Lewes museum, metalwork from the Frensham excavations and a study of tesserae from the Southwick Roman Villa. The latest study being supported is about quern stones, their manufacture and distribution patterns.



Folkestone querns

A number of archaeologically related publications have been supported with children's journals, a book on the Wealden Iron Industry, and a publication on the Reculver Roman Fort among the awards. Other projects which have been awarded grants have included financial assistance for carbon 14 dating. The most recent such award may provide the dating for a possible Bronze Age shaft at Belle Tout in Sussex. Any archaeological project whether field or post excavation can be worthy of support.

If your group or project is lacking in funding, then the CBASE may be a source of funds. The committee meets every 4 months and applications can be reviewed throughout the year.

If you would like to apply for a CBASE grant contact the Grants Officer at john.funnell@brightonarch.org.uk or visit the website (<http://www.cbasmouth-east.org/grants-and-funding/>) for an application form and terms and conditions. If successful, then a note about the project will be requested for publication in the newsletter.

Sally Christian Grants are available from **Sussex Archaeological Society**

to support individuals starting out in archaeology as amateurs or students (including sixth formers) to assist with the costs of practical or academic training, and to enable them to gain experience in archaeological fieldwork and other forms of research in Sussex. Grants are available for short courses and dayschools, covering such subjects as surveying, excavation methods, environmental sampling, drawing and/or identifying finds; and attendance at relevant conferences or research projects. Feedback will be required from successful applicants.

Further details are available from the Society's Research Officer (research@sussexpast.co.uk) to whom all applications should be submitted at least five weeks before a proposed funded course or project takes place

Please email any events, talks, recent publications relevant to the south-east, or fieldwork opportunities to events@cbasouth-east.org

Next e-letter will be issued approximately **March 1st**– please send any March, April and May items by **February 25th**.

Keep up-to-date on the website www.cbasouth-east.org/ and follow us on

 www.facebook.com/CBASouthEast and  [@CBASouthEast](https://twitter.com/CBASouthEast)