

CBA SOUTH EAST NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2024

Issue 60

Our thanks to all contributors for providing these reports for the CBA South East Newsletter.

COUNTY REPORTS

SUSSEX REPORT - David Rudling

During the winter months there was as usual a significant decrease in the amount of archaeological fieldwork undertaken by amateur groups in Sussex, but in the spring and summer, there has been more activity. This report (written in June) reviews some of the activity of the last 6 months and looks at projects yet to begin. It also provides updates concerning non-fieldwork matters.

SUSSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

During the winter, the Sussex Archaeological Society (SAS) provided its members with several free to members on-line evening lectures, and one in-person fee paying 'Inaugural Long Man Lecture' at the Attenborough Centre at the University of Sussex. The latter, by Dr Janina Ramirez, was entitled 'Writing Women Back into History: From Sussex to Scandinavia and Beyond'. SAS had its AGM in December at Michelham Priory at which one new trustee, Gavin Stewart, was elected and several others were re-elected. In February, the Society was finally able to hold (at Sussex University) its twice postponed one-day conference to celebrate its 175th anniversary (1846-2021). In 2023/4 some of the SAS properties open to the public have operated with reduced days and times. Potential visitors including those to the excellent Library at Barbican House, Lewes should continue to check first before making a visit (non-members are also welcome by appointment).

In late October 2023 members received the autumn issue (156) of the members' bi-annual newsletter *Sussex Past & Present* (SP&P), followed in late December by Volume 160 (for 2022) of the *Sussex Archaeological Collections* (SAC). The next SAC volume (that for 2023) will be sent to members this summer. Sadly, Greg Talbot, the General Manager of Sussex Past, has informed me that "there are no plans to produce an edition of the SP&P newsletter during the current phase of NLHF-funded resilience work". This work is due to finish at the end

of 2024. Previously SAS members received two issues of SP&P, and one volume of SAC, each year.

In May SAS hosted a face-to-face meeting of the **Sussex Archaeology Forum** at Lewes.

Senior staff changes at SAS have continued, with recently appointed Executive Director Leanne O'Boyle leaving and being replaced in 2024 by Greg Talbot (of the company 'Counterculture') who has become the General Manager. The appointment of Greg, assisted by various other management staff from Counterculture, is the result of SAS having successfully been awarded a National Lottery Heritage Fund resilience grant of £249,993. The aim of this grant is to enable SAS to 'Reposition for Success' - to "Stabilise, Energise, and to Thrive" - a "12-month investment to kick start our [SAS] transforming into a dynamic, contemporary, relevant and authentic heritage organisation". One long awaited appointment - that of Honorary Librarian at Lewes, was thought to have been filled, but at the last minute the person who was offered the role decided not to proceed. Recent recruit Finlay Larkin, who joined SAS as the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) Sussex Finds Liaison Assistant, has left to take up a post at the British Museum. It is hoped that instead of a replacement post it will be possible to create a job share for two Sussex Finds Liaison Officers. The very serious financial problems facing SAS are highlighted by the recent launch of a new Crowdfunder initiative - the 'Sussex Guardians Appeal.' The aim of this appeal is to raise £25,000 towards the maintenance of the properties in the care of SAS.

Other changes in SAS management continue - Greg Talbot (the General Manager-will be reducing the hours he works for SAS, whilst Gavin Stewart, who was appointed as an SAS trustee in December, has resigned from his trusteeship and is now the Society's Acting CEO on a six-month contract. Gavin is an experienced management consultant with a background in heritage and archaeology - previous work included being the Assistant Curator at Horsham Museum.

In the last CBA SE newsletter (number 59 - Autumn 2023) it was reported that SAS had purchased an important metal detector find from 'near Pulborough' - half of an Iron Age gold torc which was thought to be of 'local, regional and national significance'. However, it has also been suggested by three experts, Tessa Machling, Roland Williamson and Giovanna Fregni, in an interesting article with the title "All the right notes, but not necessarily in the right order: The riddle of the 'Pulborough Area' torc from Sussex", that this artefact "may not be Iron Age" but "a rare example of a Revival period [Victorian/Edwardian] interpretation of an Iron Age torc". For full details see: <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/374950321>

Other important research work regarding SAS involves a new fully funded PhD opportunity from Newcastle University in collaboration with Fishbourne Roman Palace and Butser Ancient Farm. With the aim of providing a window into ancient recycling at Fishbourne, this project will focus on cataloguing and publishing the luxury and everyday glass from the Palace, with an emphasis on the early window glass.

Finally, readers are reminded that the next deadline for applications to SAS for the 'Sally Christian Archaeology Bequest' for the funding of practical training courses, conference fees, etc, for those students/amateurs/non-professionals starting in archaeology, is noon on Wednesday 13th November 2024. Up to £2000 is made available each year to multiple awardees. For further details about the fund see 'Research' at: www.sussexpast.co.uk

SUSSEX SCHOOL OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY

During the last 6 months the Sussex School of Archaeology and History (SSA&H) has organised two conferences. The first, in association with CBA SE, was held at Kings Church, Lewes in November. The programme, was arranged by CBA SE, as was the theme: 'What is new from commercial archaeology in the South-East?'. This was a hybrid event with online viewers joining those present at the church. The second event, this time run in association with the Roman Studies Group of the Surrey Archaeological Society (RSG), was held at the same venue in March. This time the theme was 'Disposal of the Dead in Iron Age, Roman and early Saxon South-East England'. Work is currently underway by the RSG to get the papers presented at this and a previous conference held at Ashted in Surrey published as a book.

The next major hybrid in-person/on-line conference will take place at Kings Church, Lewes on Saturday 12th October 2024. In association with Sussex historian Dr Sue Berry, the School will host a history conference: 'Living in Tudor and Stuart Sussex c 1500-1700'. Speakers will include Dr Caroline Adams, Dr Sue Berry, Dr Andrew Foster, Professor Maurice Howard, Dr James McInnes, Dr Mary Rudling, Dr Danae Tankard, and Joe Thompson. To get further information and to book a place please see Eventbrite bookings: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/878026078637>

On November 16th 2024 the Sussex School will again partner with CBA SE to hold a joint event at Kings Church, Lewes (and accessible on-line by zoom) - a Memorial Conference for Dr Malcolm Lyne. Please see separate article.

Other activities by the Sussex School during the last 10 months have included holding its University of Sussex Archaeological Society (USAS) on-line zoom lectures. These lectures will start again on Wednesday 25th September when Gary Webster, Heritage Officer for the

National Trust, will talk about 'The South Downs Explored from Above'. Please see www.sussexarchaeology.org for further details and booking links.

ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTH-EAST

It was in April 1974 that the Sussex Field Archaeology Unit was established at the Institute of Archaeology, London, under the direction of the late Professor Peter Drewett. Today SAFU is known as Archaeology South-East. The current Director is Dr Louise Rayner, and the Unit, which is now part of University College London (UCL), has a Sussex headquarters at Portslade. In April, as part of the Unit's 50-year anniversary celebrations, a session was held at the Roman Archaeology/Theoretical Roman Archaeology Conference at UCL entitled 'A Celebration of Roman Sussex: Looking back, looking forward: reflections and recent research on the Romans in Sussex'.

WORTHING MUSEUM

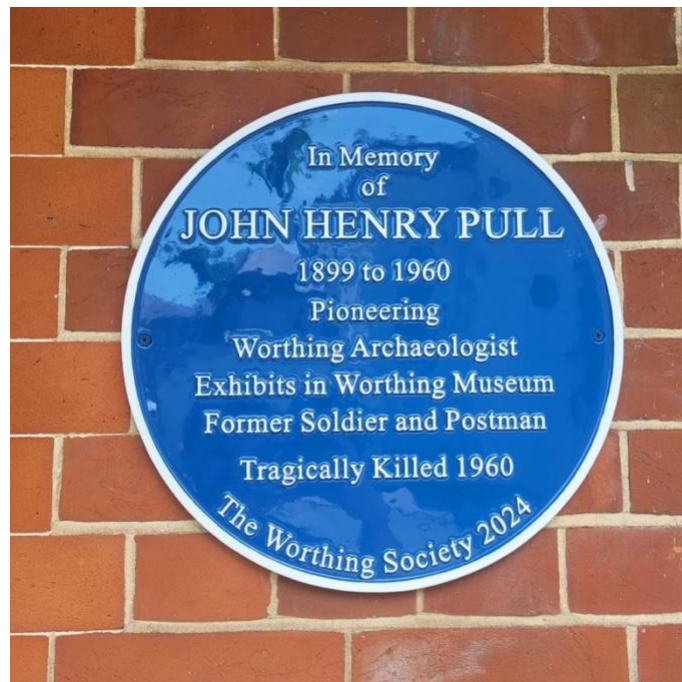


Figure 1: The Blue Plaque at Worthing Museum in Memory of John Pull
(Photo: James Sainsbury)

This May a Blue Plaque was unveiled on the southern wall of Worthing Museum in honour of John Henry Pull (1899-1960), a local amateur archaeologist who undertook much important pioneering excavation work to investigate Neolithic flint-mining in the Worthing area. There are also permanent displays dedicated to his work in the Archaeology Galleries. Tragically in 1960 John Pull was shot dead during a raid outside Lloyds Bank at Durrington, near Worthing. Sadly, John Pull was not properly appreciated during his lifetime, especially so by the upper-

class archaeological establishment in Sussex who criticised and rejected his early work. Pull's excavations between 1922 and 1956, which were located at Blackpatch, Cissbury, and Church Hill, Findon, included 21 mineshafts, 6 quarry pits and 22 flint mounds. For more information about the archaeological work of John Pull the reader is referred to a book by Dr Miles Russell (2001), *Rough Quarries, Rocks and Hills: John Pull and the Neolithic Flint Mines of Sussex* (Oxbow).

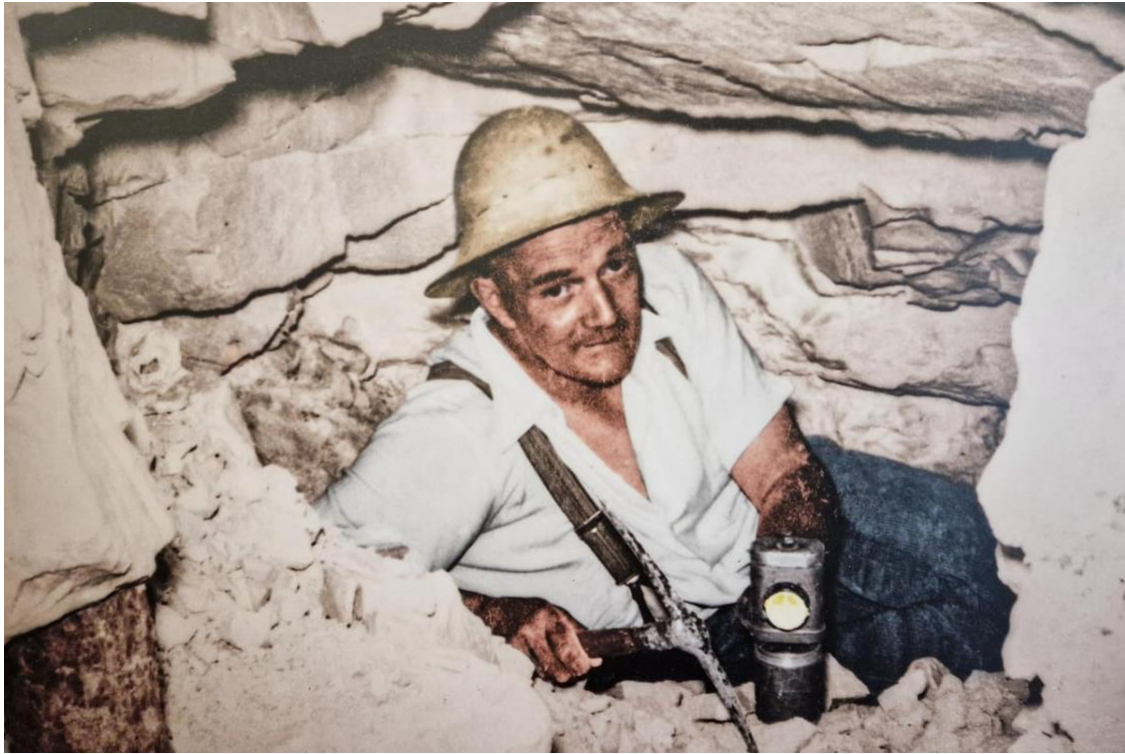


Figure 2: John Pull at Cissbury in 1953 (Photo: Worthing Museum)

THE BIG DIG AT BURPHAM, WEST SUSSEX, AUGUST 2024

During August Worthing Museum, assisted by volunteers from the Worthing Archaeological Society, ran a community-based excavation project in the village of Burpham, West Sussex. The aim was to excavate about 30 1m x 1m test-pits during a two-week period (10th - 23rd August), with an Open Day on Saturday 16th August.

RECENT AND FUTURE FIELDWORK IN SUSSEX

BRIGHTON, EAST SUSSEX

A new season of **Brighton & Hove Archaeological Society** (BHAS) excavations began at Rocky Clump, Stanmer Park, Brighton on Saturday 27th April (Fig. 3). The new area is north of last season's trench where interesting collections of prehistoric flintwork, pottery, and Roman-period bone pins were being found. The excavations have a new site director Andrew Fanning, with Simon Cooper and Mark Peck in support. Pete Tolhurst remains as training officer. The dig is planned to continue on Wednesdays and Saturdays until the end of September. For details about joining the BHAS Field Unit or digging opportunities please contact John Funnell on 0844 5888 277 or send an e-mail to co-ordinator@brightonarch.org.uk



Figure 3: Excavations at Rocky Clump, 2024 (Photo; BHAS)

STORRINGTON, WEST SUSSEX

The **Worthing Archaeological Society** (WAS) recently undertook an evaluation excavation at **Sullington Warren**, Storrington (TQ 09571449) on behalf of the **National Trust**. The aim was to get a better understanding of parch marks and anomalies from a Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) survey undertaken by Portsmouth University students. The fieldwork comprised opening two trenches (1 and 2) over the parch marks (see Fig. 4).



Figure 4: Aerial view of Sullington Warren showing parch marks and trench locations (Photo: National Trust)

Trench 1 revealed a line of foundations (see Fig. 5) consisting of green sandstone with very occasional ceramic building material (CBM) inclusions. There were two returns as anticipated from the parch marks. However, the northern return was three times the width of the southern return. It was not clear what caused this disparity, whether deliberate or the result of removing material when the structure was demolished. The lack of any building shown on maps of Sullington Common from c. 1780 (Yeakell & Gardner), 1806 (Ordnance Survey Drawings), and 1840 (Sullington Tithe Map) suggests that any structure would probably have been removed some years before 1800. The only dateable find from this trench was a silver coin dated 1846 which was found in the topsoil.



Figure 5: Sullington Warren Trench 1: possible wall foundations (Photo: WAS)

The excavation of Trench 2 exposed a layer of CBM debris (see Fig. 6), some of which overlaid a shallow ditch. Unfortunately, the dateable pottery (two sherds) from this trench was found away from the CBM spread but at the same level. The pottery is provisionally dated to the 16th and 17th centuries. The excavation director, Keith Bolton, thinks that this CBM is associated with the structure appearing on the parch marks. He notes however that it is possible that this material was brought onto the site to fill in the ditch.



Figure 6: Trench 2 showing CBM spread with slot excavated (Photo: WAS)

SOMPTING, WEST SUSSEX

The **Worthing Archaeological Society** Field Unit returned to the Whitehouse site in Sompting for a further two-week excavation (15th July to 3rd August). As in 2023, the focus of the fieldwork concentrated on the south-west corner of the site. It is known that cottages were present on the east side of Church Lane. This site has yielded a large quantity of oyster shell and clay pipe fragments, as well as imported stoneware pottery. This evidence indicates that occupation occurred between c.1550 - 1650, and that the site was possibly used for some form of hostelry. The latest excavations looked for further evidence of the building that existed on this site, and the function(s) it served. For further information on all WAS Field Unit activities, please visit the WAS website: www.worthingarchaeological.org

CHICHESTER, WEST SUSSEX

Excavations this summer in Priory Park, Chichester, led by James Kenny for Chichester District Council in association with the Chichester and District Archaeological Society continued to investigate parts of the Norman motte and baily castle ditch and an associated masonry bridge for crossing the ditch. Mr Kenny says that “the castle was probably constructed in 1067 or 1068, soon after the Norman Conquest, by Earl Roger Montgomery. He was one of the most important Norman barons, in charge of most of what would become West Sussex.”



Figure 7: Part of the bridge spanning the ditch of the motte and bailey in Priory Park (Photo: CDAS).

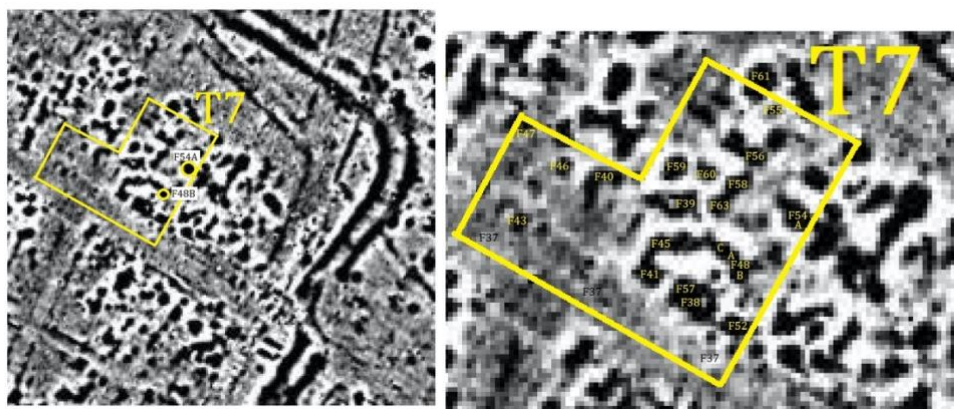
By: David Rudling

(With contributions from John Funnell of BHAS, Steve Cleverley of CDAS, and Keith Bolton of WAS)

EXCAVATION SUMMARY FOR BRIDGE FARM EXCAVATIONS OF 2023

Bridge Farm, Barcombe Mills, East Sussex (TQ4321 1449): the 12th season of investigations saw a return to Trench 7 opened in 2018 and extended in 2020 to give an open area 1400 sq. metres.

Another 9 deep pits were excavated adding to the 18 already opened and with a further 6 significant anomalies still to investigate (Fig. 1). Work continued on several features open in 2022 including F54A, a 4m wide irregular ovoid pit where a deposit of 8 fragile cattle mandibles was uncovered at 1m deep in the half section (Fig. 2). The waterlogged base of pit F48B revealed the corner of a timber frame which disappeared beneath the excavated area in both directions after c.0.5m (Fig. 3). This investigation, as in many of the other deeper pits, was hampered by the inflow from the water table despite constant use of a submersible pump. Further work on this possible timber-framed well had to be put on hold until 2024 in order to continue its exposure safely as being at 4m AOD and 2m below the trench surface considerable preparatory work will be entailed but loose timbers and leather fragments were collected from the liquid mud. Whilst some of the pits are irregular suggesting casual digging, many have vertical sides and an obvious square/rectangular or ovoid plan suggesting some care in excavation for a purpose, though the original uses are so far unclear. Previously, rows of large postholes had been excavated along the NE edge of the E-W road running through the SW edge of the trench but with only one row heading off at right-angles. The extended trench produced another group of 7 smaller, shallow posthole bases (F62) forming a right-angle but frustratingly once again with no corresponding pits to represent another two rows. It remains unclear whether these are the earth-fast posts of buildings or enclosures around commercial or industrial areas.



Figures 1a and 1b - Current Trench 7 plan showing location of features 48B & 54A on geophysical anomalies



Figure 2 - CCCU students removing some of the cattle mandibles, SFs 7.465-72, from pit F54A



Figure 3: A corner of the waterlogged timber frame in pit F48B



Figure 4: SF 7.588, the green glass intaglio from the lower fill (7-548) of ovoid pit F63

A further 13,818 sherds of Roman pottery were collected giving a total of 73,141 sherds in this trench so far with 69kg of ceramic building material including a further 797 tesserae (making 4,882 so far). 156 artefacts were recorded as Special Finds including decorated or stamped Samian, water-logged timbers and leather, dress ornaments, coins, animal bone, and glass. Of special interest was a green glass intaglio with a trophy of arms design of possibly 1st century AD origin (pers. comm. Martin Henig) (Fig. 4) and several whole pottery vessels (Fig. 5) from various locations, with none appearing to be votive depositions.



Figure 5: SF 7.527, a whole flask from (7-473) in upper fill of F63

The site continues to intrigue; whilst the features show a hive of activity in the area within the double ditched enclosure, appearing more of an industrial nature than residential, the wide range of artefacts suggest that the site was well populated by a range of people despite the lack of clear evidence for residential buildings.

By David Millum

Notes:

1. For investigations (trenches 1-6) undertaken between 2011 and 2017, see D. Millum, 'New evidence of a Romano-British settlement at Upper Wellingham, East Sussex', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* 151 (2013) 53-9; R. Wallace and D. Millum, 'The 2013 excavations of the Romano-British settlement at Bridge Farm, Wellingham', *Sussex Archaeological Collections* 155 (2017), 81-96; D. Millum, *Bridge Farm 2011-22: The Excavation of a Romano-British Defended Riverside Settlement; An Interim Report* (2022). <http://culverproject.co.uk/>
2. Work by Culver Archaeological Project was directed by R. Wallace, with volunteers and undergraduates from Canterbury Christ Church University (CCCU). David Millum MCIfA sent the information.



A Roman First century AD gold 'armilla' bracelet found near Bognor Regis.

During the late summer of 2022, Rowan (aged 11 years) and his mother Amanda Brannan were walking their dog through some public pathways near Bognor Regis when they spotted something shining in a deeply ploughed field. The object was poking out at an angle and appeared to be a gold decorated strip with no hallmarks. They took it to a jeweller who confirmed it was gold, but a metal-detecting friend of a friend advised that it looked quite old and suggested it should be reported to the Sussex Finds Liaison Officer as a potential treasure case.

Once deposited, it became clear that this was probably a Roman wide-cuff (Armilla type) bracelet dating to the first century AD. The object is incomplete with five parallel mouldings, the outer two and the inner one plain raised ribs, and the other two of a corded rope style. The terminals appear to have been cut and there is a circular piercing, made from the back through to the front, near one terminal.

These distinctive Armilla type bracelets were probably given as military awards, (*dona militaria*), for feats of valour at the time of the Roman conquest of Britain before being replaced by monetary gifts in later centuries (Feugère 1993, 56). Their discovery reflecting the presence

of soldiers, active or retired. This example is similar in style to copper-alloy examples which are fairly commonly recorded on the Portable Antiquities Scheme database (<https://finds.org.uk/>); with over 150 examples distributed broadly in a wide band north of the Thames from East Anglia to Dorset. However, they are rarely found in gold, with only three others recorded on the PAS database; WMID-44AD14, WAW-602F42, OXON-AE9ED7.

To my knowledge, the only other precious metal examples from Britain are two silver examples from the Fenwick hoard found buried in a pit seemingly in advance of the destruction of the colonia at Colchester by the Iceni in AD 60/61 (Crummy 2016, 2) which supports the idea that they are associated with early settlement or military sites (Wood 2023, 188). These examples had a sliding mechanism allowing the wearer to reduce the size to fit, and in his recent study (Wood 2023) has suggested that only the precious metal examples with sliding mechanisms are likely to be true *Armillae*. This is an exceptional find, particularly as it was discovered without the aid of a metal detector. It has been declared treasure under the Treasure Act 1996 and is hoped to be acquired by the *Novium* Museum at Chichester.

PAS database record link: SUSS-417291

<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/1092356>.

By: Jane Clark - Finds Liaison Officer for Sussex.

References:

Crummy, N. (2016). *A Hoard of Military Awards, Jewellery and Coins from Colchester*, Britannia 47, 1-28.

Feugère, M. (1993). *Weapons of the Romans*. Stroud: Tempus.

Wood, E.C. (2023) Unpublished PhD Thesis. '*Roman Military Finds from Non-Military Contexts in South-East England and the Role of the Roman Army in Romano-British Society*'. Kings College

SYAS

Due to personal circumstances, the Society's President resigned in April, and Emma Corke has been co-opted as Chair for the Board of Trustees to oversee the governance of the Society until the AGM, when a new President can be selected. The AGM is scheduled for 16th November at 2pm and will be followed by a talk by Professor Parker Pearson (UCL), all via Zoom.

Due to some difficulties with storage space, the Research Centre at Abinger has retrieved our collections of journals and those that are not available online have been brought into the building and are now shelved in the meeting room. This is of some advantage to researchers who can access the journals when they visit rather than arrange for their collection from storage. Work continues with reorganising the library and its catalogue, led by a new Librarian, Helen Lynott, who started in April.

A further challenge is that the Society has been asked to remove its archive currently stored in the Guildford Museum storage centre. To accommodate this a new building will be constructed at the Research Centre in Abinger where the archive boxes will be moved during autumn, when volunteers will assess the collection.

For regular updates about Surrey Archaeological Society activities and news from other groups your first port of call should be our monthly e-newsletter compiled by Anne Sassin and available on our website:

<https://www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk/content/enewsletter>.

This e-letter is available monthly by e-mail to members and non-members free of charge by contacting the office (info@surreyarchaeology.org.uk).

Our annual summer dig at Cock's Farm Abinger ran during June and July. This excavation has been running for several years starting with the Roman villa and gradually going uphill into the prehistoric period. Short interim reports can be found in the Surrey magazine *Surrey's Past* (back copies of which are available on our website; see <https://www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk/content/excavations-at-cocks-farm-roman-villa-abinger-2009-present-interim-reports>).

There is also a second year of our test pitting programme at Albury, which had its first week in June and ran intermittently over the summer. The project is investigating the deserted medieval settlement which once stretched along the banks of the Tillingbourne and across the course of the former road before the village was displaced in the early 19th century (to its current location to the west). Though little now remains standing of the former cottages, with the help of geophysical survey, LiDAR and - of course - a large-scale series of test pits spread across the site, the team are working to uncover and learn more about the original settlement. 18 test pits in total were excavated in the first season across the meadow area between the Tillingbourne and modern drive, with another 10 were dug this June. The results were variable, but included the foundations of one of the larger, probable 16th or 17th-century cottages in Brewhouse Meadow and in situ medieval levels at the manor's western end. You can find out more about the project, including the September test pitting on our website here:

<https://www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk/content/albury-park-test-pitting-and-open-day-0>.



Figure 1: Clay pipe from Albury test pitting. (Photo: Anne Sassin)



Figures 2 and 3: Test pitting at Albury. (Photos: Anne Sassin)

Our website also links you to the Surrey LiDAR Portal (<https://surreylidar.org.uk>), which now has the full 1m coverage for the county, including the historic London boroughs. A list of events including autumn groundtruthing and other fieldwork, conferences and lectures, many of which are free and available to all interested in the varied topics, can be also be found on our website: <https://www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk/events/all/list>

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL HERITAGE TEAM

The post-Covid 18 local authority working landscape is somewhat different to that which came before, and we are still adjusting to what this means for the services we provide. Outwardly, it hopefully appears largely unchanged, but behind the scenes we no longer have a team base or individual desks and access to materials and fellow staff members is sometimes limited. Further change is on the horizon, as the Council has recently announced the relocation of all the teams currently based at Quadrant Court in Woking, to a new site on the other side of the town. The suggestion is that team moves will be completed by Spring 2025, but we will keep people informed as and when our relocation occurs.

Since our last update the team has recorded notable departures in the form of HER Officer Robert Briggs and Administrative Assistant Tara Symonds. We wish them the very best in their future endeavours. Shan Mughal has taken over from Rob to run the HER, and Francesca

Woods has recently joined us to take over from Tara. Further changes may be forthcoming as a departmental restructure is planned for later in the year, and with a HER Digitisation Project now looking increasingly likely, we are hopeful that 2024 could see some real progress being made in the delivery of more comprehensive data-delivery services. Also, in the last year we have completed the scheduled five-year review of our Areas of High Archaeological Potential and County Sites of Archaeological Importance, meaning our planning advisory services are as up to date as possible with their evidence base. The next review is timetabled for 2028-29 so apologies if you missed submitting a site for consideration this time around, but if anything of outstanding significance is discovered in the intervening period, we can still consider it for designation if it is under threat. Also of note is the imminent final publication of the report on the discoveries at Guildford Fire Station - an internationally significant late Palaeolithic flint knapping site. Please contact us for details if you are interested in getting hold of a copy!

As staff continue to be based largely away from the offices and in advance of our digitisation proposal, access to paper records remains less immediate than it was previously. We therefore continue to ask that some patience be exercised with regards to enquiries that might require these, particularly about historic archaeological projects in the County and their reports. As always, staff here are keen to assist with any enquires made. Contact details for the team and further details about the various services provided can be found at:

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/land-planning-and-development/heritage-and-planning>.

By: Rose Hooker (with contributions from Anne Sassin and Tony Howe)

KENT REPORT – Andy Ward

The Kent Archaeological Society (KAS) has recently finished its excavation on the Lees Court Estate, Faversham which began on the 15th April and ran until the 15th June. The excavation intended to further understand the substantial ring ditch investigated in 2023. This year the society opened two trenches within the ring ditch where we uncovered vast quantities of worked flint and, perhaps most interestingly, pieces of Peterborough Mortlake Ware pottery dating between 3300 - 2700 BCE. We also investigated a possible barrow located on the edge of the estate, which was previously unknown. The work revealed a substantial ditch and part of the Palaeo land surface beneath the barrow slump.



Source: Andrew Ward

There is further investigative work required to fully understand the archaeology at the Lees Court Estate; but updates will be shared on the society's website and social media accounts. It is also our intention to publish a monograph of the work carried out by the KAS from 2018 - 2024 in due course.

The Kent Archaeological Society is also assisting the Studying History and Archaeology in Lympne (SHAL) group with an excavation of an exciting Roman site in the village. From the 12th - 24th August KAS members assisted SHAL with the investigation of the interior of the site. Much more to come on this exciting project.

FORWARD KAS STRATEGY

The Society is undergoing a number of changes in its Board of Trustees, management structure and strategy. These changes are aimed at bringing the Society into the 21st century and ensuring that it can continue to meet its objectives of bringing the past to the present for everyone across the historic county of Kent. The strategy of the society in 2024 and beyond will be publicised in due course.

Changes in KAS people/management structure

Below is the KAS management structure and how to contact them:

General Manager: Richard Taylor, richard.taylor@kentarchaeology.org.uk

Deputy Manager: Rebecca Fletcher, Rebecca.fletcher@kentarchaeology.org.uk

Membership Secretary: Ann Watson, membership@kentarchaeology.org

Society Archivist: Craig Campbell, societyarchives@kentarchaeology.org

Curator: Andy Ward, curator@kentarchaeology.org

Digital Officer: Jacob Scott, Jacob.scott@kentarchaeology.org.uk

THE NEW MUSEUM/COLLECTIONS: LIVES IN OUR LANDSCAPE GALLERY

On the 5th June 2024 Maidstone Museum officially opened its new Lives in Our Landscape Gallery to the public. The KAS was proud to be involved in the gallery project over the last 18 months. We provided assistance in the selection of objects for the gallery, many of which form part of the society's holdings in the museum. The gallery project doubled the number of archaeological finds on display from c. 700 to 1200 objects spanning every period from the Palaeolithic to the Tudors.

Work continues on cataloguing the collections of the KAS held at Marsham Street, Maidstone including the Ozengell Anglo-Saxon Collection, Arthur Harrison's collection of Roman and Medieval finds from Rochester, and other historic collections held by the society. Keep an eye on our website and social media for news on future projects and developments.

The KAS are out on the road, reaching new audiences and showcasing some of the work we undertake:

- 5th - 7th July: Kent County Show. The KAS returned to Detling showground for the first time since 2008 with a showcase of finds, Bronze casting, and items from the society library on display.
- 13th July: LEGASI Roadshow, Dover Museum 10am - 4pm. The KAS attended the LEGASI Metal Detecting Roadshow at Dover Museum to talk about the work of the society as well as showcasing material from our collections.

- 20th July: Festival of Archaeology, Maidstone Museum 10am - 3pm. The KAS joined our partners at Maidstone Museum for an archaeology day celebrating Archaeology and Community. There was free entry, and visitors were invited to dig up a real find, handle amazing objects from the past, follow the archaeology trail and claim a prize, and find out about local archaeology groups and how to get involved.
- 19th, 21st and 23rd August, St Mary of Charity Church, Faversham 10am - 4pm. KAS attended three days of the Open Faversham Festival hosted by The Faversham Society. The society showcased a selection of its collection both archaeological and archival as well as how you can get involved in archaeology. The public were invited to bring their garden finds for the society's archaeologists to look at!
- 7th - 8th November, Chatham Historic Dockyard: KAS's Maritime Special Interest Group is hosting its annual conference in partnership with the Chatham Historic Dockyard which celebrates the 40th anniversary closure of the dockyard this year. More information and tickets can be found here - [Kent Shipbuilding Conference - Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust \(thedockyard.co.uk\)](https://www.thedockyard.co.uk)
- 9th November, Aylesford Priory: The Archaeology Research Group of the KAS will host its annual fieldwork conference at Aylesford Priory with the focus being *Recent archaeological work in the Darent Valley*. The conference programme and ticket information is posted on our website.

CBA SE from Oxford Archaeology

KENT

Faversham (TR 02785 59835)

Christopher Booth

Oxford Archaeology undertook a trial-trench evaluation in connection with a proposed large-scale urban expansion to the south-east of Faversham. The fieldwork was undertaken between August and September 2022.

Twenty-three test pits were dug across the evaluation area to assess the potential for Palaeolithic archaeology. Although no Palaeolithic remains were found, the central and eastern part of the site contained widespread and well-developed brickearth deposits. These deposits have known potential for Palaeolithic archaeology, and samples could be taken for Optically Stimulated Luminescence (OSL) dating.

One hundred and seven trial trenches were excavated across the evaluation area. The earliest activity was evidenced by worked flint of late Mesolithic and Bronze Age date, which was present as residual finds from Iron Age and Roman features. One trench in the northern part of the site contained Beaker pottery and Chalcolithic or early Bronze Age worked flints. In addition, a cluster of three trenches just to the south contained a small assemblage of middle Bronze Age pottery and flints. The northernmost part of the site contained a few cut features dating to the late Iron Age or early Roman period, although none that could be related to the nearby Watling Street.

The evaluation included the investigation of three Areas of Archaeological Interest (AAI) which were identified as areas of high archaeological potential by a preceding geophysical survey. AAI1 was located in the south-western part of the site, AAI2 in the south-eastern part and AAI3 in the central western part. All three produced evidence of late Bronze Age to early Iron Age activity as well as late Iron Age or early Roman features.

AAI1 contained the most substantial and well-defined concentration of archaeological features within the site. It comprised part of a settlement spanning the 1st century BC to 1st century AD. The settlement features were first detected as a series of enclosures and a possible trackway on the geophysical survey. The trenches revealed ditches, pits and the burial of a newborn infant. The finds assemblage from AAI1, including briquetage and a variety of local and imported pottery (Fig. 1), is suggestive of a settlement involved in salt processing and with access to relatively high-status material culture via the nearby Watling Street Roman road.

Within AAI2, a series of large ditches were recorded, dating to the late Iron Age or early Roman period. These form part of a lesser concentration of features and finds of this date, spread along the southern edge of the evaluation area.

AAI3 revealed a cluster of features which seem to represent the southern part of a later prehistoric settlement. In 2007, a previous excavation to the north at Step Cottage (Selling Road) recorded a high density of middle Iron Age to early Roman features, including a pottery kiln. The 2022 evaluation recorded a dispersed group of ditches and pits, several of which produced late Bronze Age or early Iron Age pottery. One pit also contained a loom weight or triangular brick (Fig. 2). One large group of late Iron Age or early Roman pottery was recovered from a ditch in AAI3 and is thus broadly contemporary with the Step Cottage finds. An environmental sample from this area included abundant black mustard seeds, a rarely identified species in the region, which may indicate late Bronze Age or Iron Age oil production.



Figure 1: Near complete late Iron Age/early Roman jar made from a sand and flint tempered fabric from a ditch in area AA11 (Photo: Oxford Archaeology)



Figure 2: Fragments of loom weight/triangular brick from a pit in area AA13 (Photo: Oxford Archaeology)

DR MALCOLM LYNE (1943-2023)

Malcolm Lyne, who died last November, was an exceptional scholar who made many major contributions to the archaeology of South-East England. He was foremost a Late Iron Age and Roman pottery expert, his early research work involving the investigation of the Roman Alice Holt pottery kilns at Farnham in Hampshire. This work, which was undertaken in conjunction with Rosemary Jeffries, resulted in 1979 in the publication of *CBA Research Report No. 30*. David Graham of the Surrey Archaeological Society has informed me of an unusual aspect of Malcolm's interest in the Alice Holt potteries, this being a practical experiment to see whether some of the Roman pots may have been transported to London by water via the Rivers Wey and Thames rather than by road. To investigate this possibility Malcolm made a raft and successfully moved a cargo of modern reproduction pots as far as the Houses of Parliament, where upon his raft unfortunately began to come apart and Malcolm got wet! Experimental kiln firings and the making of reproduction Roman pots were other aspects of the Alice Holt project. Subsequent involvements with the study of archaeological pottery included both the production of specialist reports for many organisations, both professional and amateur, and research into other pottery industries, the most recent example being his work on the Black-burnished Wares of Dorset. Previously, in 1994 Malcolm had been awarded a Doctorate in Philosophy for his research regarding 'The Late Roman Handmade Wares in South-East Britain'.

Other important archaeological work undertaken by Malcolm included researching and reporting work regarding coins and 'small finds,' and the writing up of two old Sussex excavations undertaken by others (i.e. the excavations at Pevensey Castle 1936-1964, and those at Lewes Priory 1969-1982).

Malcolm, who went to Chichester High School from 1954 to 1961, started his working life as an accountant. His involvement in archaeology began as an amateur in his free time, and this led to him becoming in 1971 a self-employed Roman finds specialist and undertaking and completing a University of London Diploma in Archaeology in 1974. Subsequently Malcolm was honoured with a BBC Chronicle Award in 1978, and he was elected as a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London in 1998. He was a prolific publisher (for a very short and select bibliography see below), had a witty sense of humour, and was always helpful and supportive. "One in a million". He will be much missed.

It is intended to hold a Memorial Conference for Malcolm at Kings Church, Lewes on Saturday 16th November 2024. Please see separate notices elsewhere in this newsletter. It is hoped to issue those attending the conference with a listing of Malcolm's numerous publications. In the absence of such a comprehensive list, the writer (david.rudling@sussexarchaeology.co.uk) would be grateful if readers could send him reference details to Malcolm's various articles and specialist pottery reports. Thank you.

Earlier this year Kevin Trott of Wessex Archaeology and myself were involved in clearing Malcolm's house and outside sheds of numerous archive notes and some assemblages of unreturned finds, mainly pottery. If Malcolm undertook a specialist report for you and you did not receive Malcolm's working papers about your finds, and/or you did not get the pottery returned to you, please contact Kevin at Wessex Archaeology at Salisbury where the finds records and unreturned finds are currently being stored. Initially please provide Kevin (K.Trott@wessexarch.co.uk) with both site names and site codes. Thank you.

David Rudling



Photo: family of Malcolm Lyne

Malcolm Lyne: A select bibliography

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Council for British Archaeology South-East

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.

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Contributions for the Newsletter and E-letter

If you have news that you think might be of interest to people in the Southeastern region, please contact us at newslettereditor@cbasouth-east.org. Articles and notes on all aspects of fieldwork and research on the history and archaeology of the region are very welcome. Contributors are encouraged to discuss their ideas with the editor beforehand, including on the proper format of submitted material (please do supply digital copy when possible) and deadline extensions. The newsletter is issued twice a year, with the next one intended for Winter 2024.

Events, lectures, workshops, conferences, and fieldwork opportunities should be sent to Rose Hooker (rosemary.hooker@blueyonder.co.uk), our e-letter editor. The e-letter is emailed to all our members and partnership organisations and is circulated six times a year.

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CBA SOUTH EAST GRANTS

The CBA South East have been awarding grants since 1998 and have issued to date over 80

grants to groups throughout Kent, Surrey and Sussex. The awards have been for a variety of projects, but with great emphasis in supporting public involvement in archaeology. A large number of projects have been given support during the excavation process, and a number of grants have been for post excavation specialist reports. Some funding has been towards the publication of historical, but important unpublished reports, while teacher training with regard archaeology has also been the subject of grant allocation. A number of YAC groups have received help for visits to sites, museums, and event days. CBASE grants are considered at meetings in April and October, although urgent funding can be reviewed at other times during the year. Any application is considered and application forms and terms and conditions can be obtained from the CBASE Grants Secretary John Funnell at john.funnell@brightonarch.org.uk