

CBA SOUTH-EAST NEWSLETTER SPRING 2025

Issue 61

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

COUNTY REPORTS

SUSSEX REPORT - David Rudling

As usual, during the winter months there was a significant reduction in the amount of archaeological fieldwork undertaken by amateur groups in Sussex. Now, however, at the beginning of April 2025, there are increasing signs of more activity. This report reviews some of this fieldwork and other activities during the last 6 months and looks forwards to projects yet to begin. It will also provide updates concerning non-fieldwork matters.

SUSSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

During the autumn and winter of 2024/5, the Sussex Archaeological Society (SAS) provided its members with eight free to members on-line evening lectures, and one in-person fee paying 'Long Man Lecture' at the Attenborough Centre, University of Sussex. The latter, given by Professor Alexandra Harris, was entitled 'Neighbours Through Time - Local Lives, Infinite Visions'.

SAS had its AGM in October 2024 at Fishbourne Roman Palace, followed by a lecture by Professor Naomi Sykes of the University of Exeter regarding the importance of recent and ongoing research into the animal bone archives found at Fishbourne. At the AGM, Dr Mike Pitts was elected as the Society's new President, replacing the outgoing President, Professor Martin Bell. In August 2024 members received Volume 161 (for 2023) of the Sussex Archaeological Collections (SAC). It is hoped that the next SAC volume (that for 2024) will be sent to members this summer. Given the current "indefinite hiatus" in the production of the members' newsletter, Sussex Past and Present, the main method of communicating with Society members is now a 'Members Mailout' which is distributed by email bi-monthly.

Senior staff changes at SAS have continued, with John Baldock replacing Greg Talbot (of the now departed consultancy company 'Counterculture') in 2024 as the General Manager. Previously John had worked for over 13 years as a manager at the Theatre Royal at Brighton.

A very recent appointment is Dr Jemima Jarman as the Membership Secretary, replacing Izzy Roberts who left last July after working for SAS for over 14 years. Jemima is a former curatorial consultant of the Jewish Museum London. One long awaited appointment, that of Honorary Librarian at Barbican House, Lewes, remains vacant. Finlay Larkin, who left SAS as the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) Sussex Finds Liaison Assistant during 2024, has been replaced by Harry Redburn who is now a part-time Sussex Finds Liaison Officer, alongside Jane Clarke who has a similar role to Harry.

In the last two CBA South-East newsletters (number 59 - Autumn 2023; number 60 - Autumn 2024) it was reported that SAS had purchased part of an important Iron Age gold torc. However, various scholars had conflicting opinions on the authenticity of this object. There has now been further academic study and reporting led by Dr Sophia Adams of the British Museum and this research concludes that the find is of Iron Age date. The full report 'The Pulborough Gold Torc: a 4th to 3rd century BCE artefact of European significance', by Adams, S., Craddock, P., Hook, D., La Niece, S., Meeks, N., O'Flynn, D. and Perucchetti, L. is published in free to read format by Internet Archaeology and can be found at: <https://doi.org/10.11141/ia.67.16>

Things at Fishbourne Roman Palace remain busy and it is pleasing to report that last autumn the Palace was awarded the Sandford Award for heritage learning at historic sites. This prestigious award was followed in the early part of 2025 by another important award, a Collections Trust award for the site's new Geographic Information System (GIS) Project. On Friday 25th July, from 10am to 4pm, the Palace will be holding a 'Festival of Archaeology' event. Organisations taking part will include CBA South-East, various Sussex local archaeological societies, the Portable Antiquities Scheme, the National Trust and Archaeology South-East. There will also be photogrammetry demonstrations.

Finally, readers are reminded that the SAS administered 'Sally Christian Archaeology Bequest' exists for the funding of practical training courses, conference fees, etc, for those students/amateurs/non-professionals starting in archaeology. The deadline for the next round of applications for funding has not yet been confirmed but is likely to be noon on Wednesday 12th November 2025 (but please check via the SAS website). 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 ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY

During the last 6 months the Sussex School of Archaeology and History has changed its trading name to Sussex Archaeology and History (SA&H) which better reflects the current activities that it undertakes, such as online lectures, hybrid (face-to-face and online) conferences and exhibitions. Thus, since last September there have been seven online monthly lectures covering various topics and periods of archaeology. With respect to conferences, last November SA&H, in association with CBA South-East, held a memorial conference at Kings Church, Lewes, to celebrate the life and work of Dr Malcolm Lyne.

The next SA&H conference, this time in association with the Roman Studies Group of the Surrey Archaeological Society, will be held at Kings Church, Lewes on Saturday 7th June, 10am to 5pm. This event is entitled 'Shining a Light on Roman Roadside Settlements in South-East England and Beyond'. The speakers are: Tony King, Mike Luke, David Calow, Chris Butler, Blake Galloway, Matt Sparks, David Rudling and David Staveley. Sites to be discussed as case-studies include: Alfoldean, Hassocks, Bridge Farm, Icklesham, Croydon, four coin-rich sites in Surrey, and Nursling (Hampshire). Professor King will give the keynote lecture: 'On the road in the Western Roman Empire: ancient motels, caravanserais and emporia'. This hybrid event, with online viewers joining those present at the church, will aim to explore the forms and functions of Roman roadside settlements. For more information and to book a place please see Eventbrite bookings: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1308492308719>

In the autumn a hybrid in-person/on-line SA&H conference will take place at Kings Church, Lewes on Saturday 11th October 2025, 10am-5pm. In association with Sussex historian Dr Sue Berry, SA&H will host a history conference: 'Change in Victorian and Edwardian Sussex 1840-1914'. The speakers will include Sue Berry, Kathryn Ferry, Alan Green, Chris Hare, Geoffrey Mead, John Minnis, and Brian Short. To get further information and to book: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1260935565219>

The next SA&H online lecture series will start on Wednesday 24th September at 7.30pm when Dr Rebecca Welshman (University of Liverpool) and Simon Coleman (West Dean College) will discuss 'Was Pevensey the Saxon Burgh of Haestingaceastre, and the site of the Norman base in 1066?'. Please see www.sussexarchaeology.org in due course for further details of this and the other 2025/6 lectures, and to book.

On 22nd March SA&H, in association with Hands On History, held its first Exhibition at Kings Church, Lewes: 'Thames Mudlarking: Searching for London's Lost Treasures'. Thirty-two Thames Mudlarks displayed some of their finds to over 500 visitors of all ages. On display were fascinating assemblages of a wide range of finds of all periods and types (see

photograph - figure 1). Deemed a great success, it is planned to repeat this popular event in March 2027.



Figure 1: Monika, a Thames Mud Lark, with her display of finds at Lewes

ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTH-EAST

On Saturday 5th April 2025 Archaeology South-East (ASE) celebrated its 50th anniversary with a conference at the CityCoast Centre, Portslade. Keynote talks were given by ASE staff and external guest speakers to showcase ASE research and projects, both past and present.

FRIENDS OF THE SOUTH DOWNS

In May of last year, the Friends of the South Downs produced an informative map of Archaeology across the South Downs, Sussex & Hampshire as part of the 'South Downs for All' project. The map, which is free (it was largely financed by the National Lottery Heritage Fund), is available at Barbican House Museum, Lewes (and probably elsewhere). Featuring 43 sites, of different periods and types, the text was written by Professor Martin Bell.

WORTHING MUSEUM

Please note that from Sunday 2nd March to the winter of 2025 Worthing Museum & Art Gallery will be temporarily closed whilst the historic building is connected to the Worthing Heat Network. This essential work apparently aligns with the Council's commitment to a greener future.

The Museum has announced that its Archaeology Walk Programme is going ahead as usual this year, as will their 'Meet The Curator' events - dates for these will be announced once staff have access to the gallery areas after the first stage of installation work is complete. The archaeology curator, James Sainsbury, will also be involved in an archaeological excavation project this summer on Highdown Hill, details of which will be revealed in June via the Worthing Museum and Art Gallery Facebook site. The museum team are contactable at this email address should you have any queries - museum@wtm.uk

RECENT AND FUTURE FIELDWORK IN SUSSEX:

Brighton, East Sussex

A new season of Brighton & Hove Archaeological Society (BHAS) excavations begins at Rocky Clump, Stanmer Park, Brighton on Saturday 26th April. The excavations this year, which will complete the area begun in 2024, will be directed by Andrew Fanning, with Simon Cooper and Mark Peck in support. 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 either contact Simon Cooper on 08445888244 or email Andrew Fanning at archsec@brightonarch.org.uk.



Figure 2: Excavations at Rocky Clump, Stanmer 2024 (Photo; BHAS)

Chichester, West Sussex

In March 2025, Chichester and District Archaeology Society (CDAS) undertook a survey by magnetometry of the neolithic enclosure at Court Hill approximately 8 miles northwest of Chichester. This follows a CDAS geophysical survey on the Trundle in 2023, approximately two miles distant, which includes a neolithic causewayed enclosure. Both of these sites form part of a long-term research project of similar enclosures within the district.



Figure 3: Court Hill 2025: Magnetometer Survey by CDAS (Photo: CDAS).

David Rudling with thanks to Steve Cleverley of CDAS, and David Millum of the Culver Archaeology Project - see following report on the Bridge Farm Excavations

Bridge Farm Excavations 2024 and 2025, Wellingham, East Sussex



Figure 4: A busy day for students and volunteers on site at Bridge Farm

Opened in 2018, Trench 7 has offered a very complex, multiphase range of archaeology which has demanded 6 years of investigation before its final closure in the autumn of 2024. The mainly deep feature excavations in last year have been amazingly finds-rich, especially with pottery, including whole vessels, part of a cheese press, and fine ware dishes, cups and beakers, sherds of samian mortaria, and several samian bases with maker's marks (fig. 5). Other interesting finds include: a decorated diamond-shaped, copper-alloy plate pin, a relatively rare coin of Hadrian with the earliest personification of Britannia, a third of a turquoise glass dish and a shard of rare snake-thread glass (fig. 6).



Figure 5: A samian dish with maker's mark



Figure 6: Snake-thread glass

Located over the centre of the enclosed area of the site around the central crossroads, it surprisingly proliferated with a multitude of large and often very deep pits, as well as several rows of postholes, including an alignment suggesting a 5m wide square structure. Whilst many of the features suggest industry, the finds show a once buoyant consumer community.

But as it always seems to work out, the best was saved till last, with a waterlogged timber-framed well found below a later Roman-period pit (fig. 7 and fig. 8). Initially discovered at the end of the 2023 season it could not be fully investigated until 2024 due to the massive amount of hand-digging required to provide safe access by excavating a series of 0.5m steps and shoring the remaining baulk of the upper pit. It took the full six weeks, plus most of a seventh, and a lot of hard work by students, volunteers, and supervisors, plus constant use of a generator and submersible pump, to expose the whole timber frame (steining), remove some sample timbers and wet float the grey clay (fig. 9) from the interior for environmental and organic finds. The latter included several leather shoe fragments showing signs of stitching, a carved wooden knife handle and a birch wood stake still with its bark.



Figure 7: A well timber is carefully removed. Figure 8: The 2nd layer of timber stening.

The season culminated in an Open Day that attracted over 400 visitors causing a few logistical challenges in trying to get everyone around both the site and the crowded finds display building. But there is still much work to do in correlating the compiled records from the 6 years of excavation and working towards a draft post-excavation report. This can be a long process for a volunteer research project such as the Culver Archaeological Project (CAP), particularly in acquiring funding for specialist assessments. This year we have been very fortunate in being granted £2,500 from the Roman Research Trust and £1,000 from CBA South-East towards assessments for our 2015-17 excavations which will facilitate completion of the report for Trench 6.



Figure 9: Canterbury Christ Church University students undertaking floatation of the fill of the well

Another exciting event in 2024/5 was an exhibition, 'Investigating A Roman Landscape in Sussex', exclusively on the Bridge Farm excavations, at Worthing Museum from September 21st to January 12th which was extended through popular demand to the end of February. This included an illustrated presentation in the museum on 31st October by David Millum. CAP also put on a display of artefacts at the Malcolm Lyne Memorial Conference held by Sussex Archaeology and History in association with CBA SE at Lewes in November. The display was especially significant given that Malcolm had undertaken all of the Culver Project Roman pottery reports during his lifetime.

LOOKING FORWARD TO BRIDGE FARM IN 2025

Over the winter, a new 40m open area trench has been opened just to the east of Trench 7, over the eastern entrance to the enclosed settlement and the road to Pevensey (*Anderida*). The indications from the new trench surface are good with areas of flints showing over the London and Pevensey roads, and darker areas where we expect the ends of the enclosure ditches. The new trench awaits the start of the new six-week season on May 26th and the arrival of Bridge Farm 2025's students and volunteers. More details and application forms can be found on <https://www.culverproject.co.uk/>



Figure 10: Location of Trench 9 over the eastern entrance to the ditched enclosure

The Director of the CAP and the excavations at Bridge Farm is Rob Wallace MA. 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 2011-24: The Excavation of a Romano-British Defended Riverside Settlement; An Interim Report' (2025). <https://www.culverproject.co.uk/>

David Millum

SURREY REPORT – Rosemary Hooker

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

<https://www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk/content/enewsletter-029>.

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 will commence on May 17th 2025 and end on June 2nd 2025. It will be a final phase to explore the potential Neolithic activity on this site. Short interim reports of this multi-period site can be found in the *Surrey's Past*, backcopies of which are available on our website.

There will also be two separate weeks of test pitting as part of our on-going community archaeology Albury Park project in June and September which volunteers are welcome to take part in. Our website also links you to the Surrey LiDAR Portal with opportunities to view the county's LiDAR against historic maps and data.

The Surrey Archaeological Society Roman Studies Group is holding a conference in conjunction with the Sussex School of Archaeology and History. It will be held on 7th June 2025 in King's Church, Lewes on the topic *Shining a Light on Roman Roadside Settlements in South East England and Beyond*. Details and booking are available here:

<https://www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk/content/rsg-conference-shining-a-light-on-roman-roadside-settlement-in-south-east-england>

Over the last few months the Society has built a storage facility at the Research Centre to house the archive which had to be stored by Guildford Museum. The museum archive store is to be replaced by a smaller space so the Society was unable to continue with the previous arrangement. Volunteers are now undertaking a Collections Review to assess the archive for retention and disposal. In future it is hoped that all information will be available digitally. Other volunteers are working on updating our website and the library volunteers are also making the books, journals and research items more easily available.

KENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY REPORT – Andrew Ward

Resignation of Richard Taylor from the Kent Archaeological Society (KAS)

Richard Taylor has formally submitted his resignation as General Manager of the Kent Archaeological Society to the Board of Trustees. His departure is scheduled to take place after the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in May 2025. Richard is confident that he leaves the Society with a strengthened reputation for both engagement and historical and archaeological research, particularly as the KAS navigates new challenges in an increasingly digital age. While the Society will face significant financial challenges in the coming years, recent expenditures have laid a solid foundation for continued growth, enabling increased income

from various sources. Furthermore, with his resignation and an additional proposed reduction in some staffing hours, the Society's primary expense related to salaries will decrease.

The remaining members of the Management Team are committed to the strategic direction of the Society. Rebecca Fletcher as Interim General Manager, along with a new Chair of Trustees and a dedicated Board, will continue this mission from May 2025

The Society has also announced that Board of Trustee Chair Professor Kerry Brown will be stepping down at this year's AGM on the 17th May. Kerry Brown felt that after five years, it was time for a fresh pair of eyes and for some new thinking but had been grateful for the opportunity to learn from colleagues and to be part of the remarkable work carried out by KAS "

Upcoming KAS Excavations:

Uncovering Front Brents; A Community Archaeological Excavation revealing 19th century life along Faversham Creek in partnership with the Faversham Creek Trust, Faversham Society Archaeology Research Group (FSARG) and MOLA's Coasts in Mind Project.

Dates: 24th May - 1st June 2025, 10am - 4pm

More details will be shared on the KAS website and Social Media Channels:

www.kentarchaeology.org.uk

Lees Court Estate: The KAS will be returning to the Lees Court Estate, Faversham to investigate the site of a possible Neolithic long-barrow in the woodland near Holly Field. A further trench is planned to investigate circular crop marks within the valley.

Dates: 5th May - 28th June, 10am to 4pm, Monday - Saturday.

More details will be shared on the KAS website and Social Media Channels:
www.kentarchaeology.org.uk

KAS Affiliated Events:

Events from the Society's numerous affiliated groups can be found on the website at <https://www.kentarchaeology.org.uk/events>.

The Society Archivist Craig Campbell has reached out to over 180 groups found within the county of Kent to understand whether they are still active, what events they hold, and any

challenges they are facing. It is hoped to have a county wide events diary on the KAS website in due course to avoid clashes between different groups' events.

Online Zoom Lectures: The KAS has been hosting a number of free online lectures through their Zoom account. The recent lecture by Dr David Brownrigg on using Aerial Photography and LiDAR is now available on the KAS website:

KAS Fieldwork Forum:

The Archaeological Research Group (ARG) of the KAS held its annual fieldwork forum on Saturday 15th March at the historic Aylesford Priory. The forum sought to address challenges facing the archaeology of Kent, ranging from storage of archaeological finds, connecting local groups, to funding and approaching archaeological specialists. The record of the day's talks can be found on our website:

<https://www.kentarchaeology.org.uk/videos/challenges-facing-kents-archaeology>

KAS Photogrammetry Models

The Society's Digital Manager and Curator have been slowly making their way through the KAS collection selecting suitable objects to undergo 3D scanning and photogrammetry. The models, including items from the Early Medieval Ozengell Collection can be seen online: <https://www.kentarchaeology.org.uk/models/kas-collections>

KAS call for Trustees:

The Kent Archaeological Society, founded in 1857, is dedicated to promoting, protecting, and enhancing access to Kent's rich history and archaeology. Since becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organization (CIO) in 2018, KAS has further committed to educating the public and actively researching, preserving, and conserving Kent's historical heritage.

KAS want to strengthen their team by inviting new Trustees to join in this vital work. They seek individuals eager to contribute constructive ideas and insights to help them advance their strategic initiatives and support their management team in their effective implementation.

Trustees, will have the meaningful opportunity to engage with the KAS mission by attending four Board meetings each year, either in person or remotely, and participating in occasional discussions with the management team.

KAS encourage applicants from various backgrounds and experiences to apply, as they believe that diverse perspectives can enrich the Board of Trustees and enhance their impact. If CBA South-East members are interested in contributing to the future of the Kent Archaeological Society, please get in touch: Rebecca.fletcher@kentarchaeology.org.uk

CBA South-East Conference Report: 16 November 2024

POTS, COINS, ARTEFACTS AND ARCHIVES

This CBA South-East conference, organised in conjunction with the Sussex School of Archaeology and History, was held at Kings Church, in Lewes. It was a memorial event for Dr Malcolm Lyne who died in 2023. The conference focused on Malcolm's life, work and research interests. Malcolm, a regional Roman pottery specialist by trade, had a phenomenal knowledge about Roman pottery, and a deep interest in Roman coins. His PhD was on the subject of 'Grog Tempered Wares in the South-East of England'. He also researched and published work on the Black Burnished Ware (BB1) pottery industry based in Poole, Dorset.

Dr Steve Willis was the opening speaker and talked about Malcolm and his personal life, his incredible work and his various trips to conferences on the continent and his association with friends in Romania. Malcolm's first research involved the Alice Holt pottery kilns in Hampshire, preserved untouched in a forest environment, with future work on numerous pottery assemblages including those from the Hassocks cemetery in Sussex and the Eccles villa in Kent.

Dr Anna Doherty presented a paper on Malcolm's study of pottery in Sussex, including his work on East Sussex grog-tempered ware and the products of the kilns at Wickham Barn near Chailey. Wherever there was a dig Malcolm would appear.

Chris Butler spoke of Malcolm's involvement with the Mid Sussex Field Archaeological Team and their work in and round Sussex. It was this group that excavated at Wickham Barn, with Malcolm also writing up the pottery reports for the Barcombe and Plumpton villa sites.

Jerry Evans spoke about the Wingham Villa excavations in Kent and its unusual pottery assemblage, which included terra nigra sherds, and some fine grey wares. It was however the Dorset Black Burnished wares that fascinated Malcolm Lyne, and he was very involved with Jerry's publication providing important reference details.

Lilian Ladle provided details of Malcom's reports on the pottery found at Worth Maltravers,

Druce Farm and other Dorset locations. The pottery included kitchen wares, bowls, flagons, lids, colanders and strainers.

Thomas Martin's presentation focused on the Roman to Saxon overlap regarding pottery studies, and the hybrid pottery that appeared at that time. There was a wide variety of Roman forms frequently found, and hybrid pottery discovered in sunken-featured buildings. After lunch our attention was diverted away from pottery studies to consider some of Malcolm's other archaeological skills. He was involved in the study and publication of items other than just pottery.

Dr Philip Smither therefore went on to speak about Malcolm's drawings and recordings of military metal fittings such as Roman helmets and belt fittings at Richborough in Kent.

Professor Mike Fulford focused on the excavations at Pevensey Castle, and the distribution of Pevensey Ware pottery from locations in the south of England. Some pottery reaching areas in South Wales, Gloucester, and across the English Channel to the continent.

Dr Rebecca Welshman and Simon Coleman's presentation was about the possible landing place of the Normans in 1066 being at Pevensey rather than at Hastings. Malcolm Lyne and Pam Coombs had written a paper in the *Sussex Archaeological Collections* supporting this idea. They also suggested that the battle of Hastings was possibly not at Battle, but at Heathfield, a few miles to the north of Pevensey. Malcolm's interest also spanned Roman coinage and he had his own large collection of Roman coins.

Dr Sam Moorhead's lecture was on the Saxon Shore Forts, and the coin assemblages from these locations. His main theme centred on the reigns of Carausius and Allectus during the late 3rd century. Pevensey Castle is quite a different construction layout to the other forts, its shape following a contour of the land rather than a more formal rectangular shape. Sam and others suggest that it may have been constructed by the usurper British Emperor Allectus. It is incredible that the fort at Richborough has produced 50,000 Roman coins, with a large percentage from the later period.

Dr Anthony Durham's subject was about Roman and Saxon place names around The Solent and this talk was inspired by a paper written by Malcolm.

Arthur Franklin's presentation was about Malcolm's work on studying the archive and finds from the excavations at Lewes Priory. Although the excavations were conducted by Richard Lewis, it was Malcolm who brought the site to publication.

Kevin Trott from Wessex Archaeology gave the final lecture. Malcolm had a considerable archive of documents, plans, drawing, pottery and other finds. These were in virtually every room in his house, and his 2 garden sheds. Kevin, assisted by David Rudling, retrieved a considerable amount of the documentation and almost 80% of the finds have been returned to their excavators. It proved to be a huge task lasting several months and long car journeys.

The CBA South-East conference was a tremendous tribute to an outstanding scholar, encompassing his massive contribution to archaeology. Malcolm's incredible knowledge produced so many detailed publications, and many memories to those that knew him. It is perhaps sad that he was not present to see how much he was appreciated by his peers. Dr David Rudling, Sarah Green and the Sussex School team should be thanked for bringing this superb event together, with so many excellent speakers.

John Funnell

Grant updates

FEEDBACK ON THE BISHOPSTONE ANGLO-SAXON CEMETERY PROJECT.

By Martin Bell

The Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Bishopstone, East Sussex was excavated during housing development by David Thomson in 1967-8. Only one artefact from the cemetery has been published to date. Following the cemetery excavation an associated settlement was excavated on adjoining agricultural land; this site also revealed evidence for Neolithic to Romano-British settlement. Those excavations were published by the writer in *Sussex Archaeological Collections* 115 (1975). A team are now preparing the report on the cemetery excavation. We are grateful for funding from the Society of Antiquaries which has facilitated completion of the human bone report by Dr Paola Ponce. CBA South-East provided a grant enabling Antonio Rias of the Institute of Archaeology to do studio photographs of the bones with evidence of pathology and these will illustrate the report.



Figure 11: Bishopstone Grave 29 (Eric Holden)



Figure 12: Bishopstone Grave SK34 Caries (Antonio Rias)

The grave goods were conserved by Jacqui Watson at Fishbourne and have now been drawn. All the copper alloy artefacts have been analysed as part of the REMADE project using a combination of Portable X-Ray Fluorescence (pXRF) and Microwave Plasma Atomic Emission Spectrometry (MP-AES), the latter providing particularly precise metal composition evidence. Ancient DNA analysis of 9 skeletons shows that only a minority have largely North European origins; further DNA and isotope analysis is in progress.

The Sussex Archaeological Society has a conference on Early Medieval Archaeology on Saturday 8th November 2025 at Sussex University. That will showcase the latest research on this cemetery, a new cemetery find in West Sussex, Dr Sue Harrington's work on Highdown and wider research on the settlements and landscapes of the period.

Council for British Archaeology South-East

CBA South-East 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 2024/25

Chair: Steve Cleverly; Vice-Chair/Social Media Officer: Andrew Ward; Grants: John Funnell; Treasurer: Steve Cleverly; Secretary: Elizabeth Blanning; Membership Secretary: Shiela Broomfield; Webmaster: Phil Stanley; Newsletter: Ann Russell and Ann Isenberg; E-letter: Rose Hooker; Other trustees: Anne Sassin and David Rudling

Enquiries and Membership: Shiela Broomfield, 8 Woodview Crescent, Hildenborough, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 9HD, tel: 01732 838698, s.b.broomfield@outlook.com

Contributions for the Newsletter and E-letter

If you have news that you think might be of interest to people in the South-eastern 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 2025 and we would appreciate contributions by 7 November 2025.

Events, lectures, workshops, conferences, and fieldwork opportunities should be sent to Rose Hooker (hookerrosemary0@gmail.com), our e-letter editor. The e-letter is emailed to all our members and partnership organisations and is circulated six times a year.

Any comments or articles will represent the views of the author/authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Trustees,

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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. CBA South-East 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 CBA South-East Grants Secretary John Funnell at: trustees@cbасouth-east.org