

Welcome to the CBA SE Events and News,

Dear Member,

As the cold weather (hopefully) draws to a close, I hope you will find this brief update from Kent of interest. In my role as Kent Archaeological Society Curator, I would like to offer a short overview of the current picture.

Kent has always occupied a distinctive place in Britain's archaeological story. As the closest point to continental Europe, the county has long been a place of arrival, exchange and transformation. That role continues to shape both the archaeology we encounter and the challenges we face in managing it. The scale and pace of development is perhaps the defining factor. Major infrastructure projects, housing growth linked to London expansion, ports, logistics hubs and renewable energy schemes generate significant volumes of archaeological work. This has produced an extraordinary body of new evidence, particularly for later prehistory, the Roman period and early medieval Kent, reinforcing the county's importance in understanding migration, trade and cultural change

Kent's archaeology is not only abundant but highly visible. Iconic sites such as Canterbury, Richborough and Dover sit alongside lesser-known rural and coastal landscapes that are deeply valued by local communities. Community archaeology projects, local societies and volunteers remain a great strength, acting as advocates for sites at risk and as bridges between professionals and the public. Sustaining this energy, however, requires clear communication, support and accessible training.

Climate change and coastal erosion are increasingly central concerns. As part of this work, the Coasts in Mind team partnered with KAS and the Faversham Society Archaeology Research Group on a community excavation at Front Brents, Faversham (May-June 2025), involving around 300 participants. The results are now showcased in a free exhibition at the Fleur de Lis Museum, open until Saturday 18th April.

Like many regions, Kent also faces pressures in skills and capacity, including shortages in local authority services, museum storage and specialist expertise. The volume of work generated by development does not always translate into sustainable local infrastructure.

Archaeology in Kent encapsulates many of the opportunities and tensions facing the sector nationally. Sharing this perspective is about contributing to a wider conversation on how we understand, resource and protect our shared historic environment.

With best wishes, Andy Ward KAS Curator, CBA-SE Vice-Chair and Social Media Officer

CBA SE News

The AGM of CBA SE will be held on Wednesday 6th May 2026 at 7pm. Papers will be circulated soon and the Zoom link is here:.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87852905568>

Meeting ID 878 5290 5568

Passcode 618184

Please do not circulate this publicly

It will start with a talk by James Sainsbury (Worthing Museum) on the Highdown Big Dig and plans for 2026.

CBA News

Tuesday 3rd March 2026 (19.00)

An Evening with National Trust Archaeologists

This is a free online event. Booking available from: <https://www.archaeologyuk.org/get-involved/events-and-activities/event-calendar/an-evening-with-national-trust-archaeologists-2026.html>



This new site is clearer, easier to navigate and designed to make it simpler to find what you need. Try it out through this link: <https://www.yac-uk.org/>

Lectures

Monday 2nd March 2026 (19.15)

Dorking Local History Group – “Trig Point Charlie”

A talk by Alastair Clark on the history of these landscape markers.

Venue: Crossways Community Baptist Church, Junction Road, Dorking

Details from: programme@dlhg.org.uk

Wednesday 4th March 2026 (20.00)

Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society – People of the Two Rivers

This talk by Jon Cotton (President) follows the AGM

Venue: Ewell Hall, London Road, Ewell

Fee: £4

Details from: <https://www.epsomewellhistory.org.uk/eehastalks>

Wednesday 4th March 2026 (20.00)

Orpington & District Archaeological Society – Landscapes, monuments and visibility in early Neolithic Kent

A talk by Dr Alastair Oswald (English Heritage)

Venue: Christ Church URC, Tudor Way, Petts Wood

Fee: non members £3

Details from: <https://www.odas.org.uk/meetings/>

Tuesday 10th March 2026 (19.30)

Worthing Archaeological Society – Vikings: The Story of the Vikings, their History, Social Interaction and Artefacts

A talk by Bob Turner

Venue: Worthing Library Lecture Theatre, Richmond Road, Worthing

Fee: non members £4

Details and booking from: <https://www.worthingarchaeological.org/upcoming-events.html>

Tuesday 10th March 2026 (20.00)

Plaxtol Local History Group – A House History of Ightham Mote

A talk by Frederick Forman, Senion Collections & House Officer, Ightham Mote

Venue: Plaxtol Memorial Hall, School Lane, Plaxtol, Sevenoaks

Fee: non member £4

Details from: <https://plaxtollocalhistory.wordpress.com/talks-visits/>

Wednesday 11th March 2026 (19.00)

Hastings Area Archaeological Research Group – Stone Age living and integrating it into the 21st century

A talk by Michael Wachter after the AGM, demonstrated with artefacts.

Venue: Isobel Blackman Centre, Winding Street, Hastings Old Town

Fee: non members £3

Details from: <https://www.haarg.org.uk/events-calendar>

Wednesday 11th March 2026 (19.30)

Battle Historical Society – The Stolen Crown: Treachery, Deceit and the Death of the Tudor Dynasty

A talk by Professor Tracy Borman on the rewriting of history by the Stuart dynasty and revelations from newly discovered documents in the British Library.

Venue: Battle Memorial Hall, Battle

Details from: <https://battlehistorysociety.com/Programme/>

Thursday 12th March 2026 (19.45)

Tonbridge Historical Society – The Neanderthal Archaeology of the English Channel Region

A talk by Dr Matt Pope (UCL)

Venue: Riverside Room, Angel Centre, Tonbridge

Details and booking: <https://tonbridgehistory.org.uk/>

Tuesday 10th and 24th March 2026 (19.30)

Sussex School of Archaeology and History – **Sussex Landscape Series**

Two **online** talks by Dr Geoff Mead on ‘Along the Coast’ and ‘The Weald and the National Park’
Fee £5 each.

Details and booking from: <https://www.sussexarchaeology.org/sussex-landscapes>

Friday 13th March 2026 (19.30)

Brighton & Hove Archaeological Society – **Border Controls in Roman Britain: the walls of Hadrian and Antoninus Pius and the forts of the Saxon Shore (including Pevensey)**

A talk by David Rudling on this important part of British Roman history

Venue: Unitarian Church, New Road, Brighton

Fee: non members £5 (cash only)

Details from: https://brightonarch.org.uk/6_1.htm

Tuesday 17th March 2026 (19.30)

Dorking History Society – **The Dorking and Petworth Emigration Schemes in the 19th century**

An **online** talk by Dr Judy Hill

Details and booking from: programme@dhlg.co.uk

Tuesday 17th March 2026 (20.00)

Oxted History Society – **a Tale of Two Roman Cities: Pompeii and Herculaneum**

Dr David Rudling will be speaking about these important Roman sites

Venue: United Reformed Church, Bluehouse Lane, Oxted

Fee: £5

Thursday 19th March 2026 (19.00)

Friends of Canterbury Archaeological Trust – **Offensive Industries: Preliminary results from Jubilee House, Stratford**

A talk by Harry Platts (Pre-Construct Archaeology)

Venue: CCCU, LG16 (Ground Floor), N Holmes Road, Canterbury

Details and booking from: <https://www.canterburytrust.co.uk/events/offensive-industries-preliminary-results-from-jubilee-house-stratford>

Friday 20th March 2026 (19.30)

Lewes Archaeological Group – **What Lies Beneath: the uses of geophysics by HAARG in revealing the archaeological landscape**

A talk by Lynn Cornwell of HAARG describing work at Robertsbridge Abbey and Winchelsea

Venue: Lecture Room, Lewes Town Hall, Fisher Street, Lewes

Fee: non members £4

Details from: <http://www.lewesarchaeology.org.uk/>

Sunday 22nd March 2026 (15.00)

Newtimber Church Lecture – **Roman Rural Settlements in Sussex**

A talk by Dr David Rudling

Venue: Newtimber Church, Hassocks

Fee: £10 includes Cream Tea

Booking from: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/roman-rural-settlements-in-sussex-tickets-1979732733900>

Tuesday 24th March 2026 (19.30)

Horley Local History Society – **The History of British Coins and Tokens Part 2: 1662-2020**

A talk by Dr David Rudling to complete an overview of the history of British coins.

Venue: Horley Community Centre, Regent Hall, Albert Road, Horley

Fee: £2

wednesday 25th March 2026 (19.30)

USAS – **40 Years of Heritage in the UK-Challenges and Opportunities**

An **online** talk by Chris Blandford (President, World Heritage UK)

Fee: non members £5

Details and booking from: <https://tixoom.app/sussexarchaeology/umuX8vzmF9m0>

Thursday 26th March 2026 (19.00)

Surrey Archaeological Society: Prehistoric Group – **Members Presentations**

Online talks by Society members discussing their work on Mesolithic Pembrokeshire, Orkney Archaeology and building a Neolithic round house at Flaf Fen

Booking available from: info@surreyarchaeology.org.uk

Thursday 26th March 2026 (19.30)

Sussex Archaeological Society – Long Man Lecture

This annual event will be presented by Raksha Dave.

Venue: Attenborough Centre for the Creative Arts, University of Sussex

Fee: non members £25

Details and booking from: <https://sussexpast.co.uk/day-events/book-long-man-lecture-raksha-dave/>

Wednesday 1st April 2026 (20.00)

Orpington & District Archaeological Society – The massive Melsonby Iron Age hoard: from bits of bits, to wheels and wagons

A talk by Dr Sophy Adams (British Museum) on this exciting discovery

Venue: Chriar Church URC, Tudor Way, Petts Wood

Fee: non members £3

Details from: <https://www.odas.org.uk/meetings/>

Friday 10th April 2026 (19.30)

Tonbridge Historical Society – Murder, Madness and Mayhem? – The Belgian Royal Family

This talk by Melanie Gibson-Barton follows the AGM

Venue: Riverside Room, Angel Centre, Tonbridge

Details from: <https://tonbridgehistory.org.uk/>

Tuesday 14th April 2026 (19.30)

Worthing Archaeological Society – Fifth and sixth century burial grounds along the Sussex coast: comparisons and differences

A talk by Sue Harrington

Venue: Worthing Library Lecture Theatre, Richmond Road, Worthing

Fee: non members £4

Details from: <https://www.worthingarchaeological.org/upcoming-events.html>

Monday 13th April 2026 (20.00)

Richmond Local History Society – **Richmond’s links to British America and the War of Independence**

A talk by Simon Targett.

Venue: Duke Street Church, Richmond

Fee: tbc

Details from: <https://www.richmondhistory.org.uk/wordpress/events/>

Tuesday 14th April 2026 (20.00)

Plaxtol Local History Group – **The Development of Houses**

A talk by David Carder

Venue: Plaxtol Memorial Hall, School Lane, Plaxtol

Fee: non members £4

Details from: <https://plaxtollocalhistory.wordpress.com/talks-visits/>

Friday 17th April 2026 (19.30)

Lewes Archaeological Group – **Archaeology and Ancient Routeways of the Western Rother Valley of West Sussex**

A talk by Prof. Martin Bell describing the archaeology relevant to the utilisation of the Weald

Venue: Lecture Room, Lewes Town Hall, Fisher Street

Fee: non members £4

Details from: <http://www.lewesarchaeology.org.uk/>

Friday 17th April 2026 (14.30)

Farnham Museum Society – **An Archaeological Childhood in Sussex**

A talk by Dr Janet Pennington about her experience with archaeological parents Eric and Hilda Holden

Venue: Museum of Farnham Garden Gallery, West Street, Farnham

Fee: Tbc

Details from: <https://farnhammuseumsociety.org.uk/events/>

Thursday 23rd April 2026 (19.00)

Friends of Canterbury Archaeological Trust – **Frank Jenkins Memorial
Lecture: 50 Years of CAT and Beyond**

A talk by Mark Houliston, Director CAT

Venue: CCCU. Laud Building, LG 16 (Ground Floor), N Holmes Road, Canterbury

Details and booking from: <https://www.canterburytrust.co.uk/events/frank-jenkins-memorial-lecture-50-years-of-cat-and-beyond>

Monday 27th April 2026 (19.30)

The SAH Online Holleyman Archaeology Lecture – **On the Track of the
Hunters of the Prehistoric High Weald**

A talk by Dr Helena Griffiths and Anndy Bliss on a site near Horsted Keynes and what a community project has revealed.

Fee: free; donations welcome

Booking from: <https://tixoom.app/sussexarchaeology/uXz7GnU5FSeV>

Friday 1st May – Sunday 3rd May 2026 (19.30-15.45)

Medieval Canterbury Weekend

A programme of 20 talks

Venue: University of Kent, 3 Woodland Way, Canterbury

Fee: £10 per talk

Details and booking from: <https://www.kentarchaeology.org.uk/events/medieval-canterbury-weekend>

Wednesday 6th May 2026 (20.00)

Orpington & District Archaeological Society – **Women and the Royal
Archaeological Institute**

A talk by Nathalie Cohen, National Trust Archaeologist

Venue: Christ Church URC, Tudor Way, Petts Wood

Fee: non members £3

Details from: <https://www.odas.org.uk/meetings/>

Events

Saturday 14th March 2026 (10.00-16.30)

Surrey Archaeological Society – **Annual Symposium**

This Annual Conference is always dedicated to talks by Society members and commercial units of **Recent Work in Surrey**

Venue: East Horsley Village Hall, East Horsley

Fee: £17

Details and booking from: <https://www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk/content/annual-symposium-7>



Saturday 21st March 2026 (9.30-17.00)

Sussex Archaeology Symposium

Venue: King's Church, Lewes and **online**

Fee: Early Bird available until 13th March: £20 in person, £15 online

Details of programme and booking link from:

<https://www.sussexarchaeology.org/archaeologysymposium2026>



Saturday 21st March 2026 (10.00-16.00)

Kent Archaeological Society- **Annual Fieldwork Forum: An archaeologists' practical guide to site recording**

Venue: Lenham Community Centre

Details from: <https://www.kentarchaeology.org.uk/events>

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, with some of the funding going towards the cost of hiring equipment, including support 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 are 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.

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. Any archaeological project whether field or post excavation can be worthy of support. Applications will be reviewed on **1st April** and **1st October** for consideration by the committee.

There is also a ring-fenced Young Archaeologists fund for YAC and Museum Groups which may need some small funds to kickstart projects and events.

If your group or project is lacking in funding then the CBASE may be a source of funds. If you would like to apply for a CBASE grant, contact the Grants Officer at trustees@cbasouth-east.org for an application form and terms and conditions. If successful then a note about the project will be requested for publication in the newsletter.

CBA YAC Grants

In addition to CBA-SE's own Young Archaeologists grant funding, YAC have launched a small grants scheme to help YAC branches with COVID recovery.

The grants are **£200** per branch and there are no restrictions on what they can be spent on, as long as they help with restarting in-person sessions.

The funding has come from several different pots. For English Clubs, **Historic England** have made funds available as part of their broader core funding for the YAC.

For Northern Ireland and Scotland, the **CBA** have helped fund the YAC, and funding has already been provided to YAC Welsh groups via the **NLHF project, Unloved Heritage**, managed by **Cadw**. You can read the full blog about the YAC grants by following <https://www.yac-uk.org/news/launching-small-grants-for-yac-groups>.

Sally Christian Grants from Sussex Archaeological Society are available to support students and early career heritage professionals conducting archaeological research or study related to Sussex. Full details of what can be funded and how to apply are at:

<https://sussexpast.co.uk/research/the-sally-Christian-fund/>

Note that the current application deadline is Thursday 2nd April 2026 at 12 noon.

Fundraising Accounts

CBA Southeast has set up multiple fundraising accounts that supporters may use to help to fund our charitable aims, and hopefully align with your preferences.

These are:

1. Give as you live (www.giveasyoulive.com), our charity name being Council for British Archaeology South-East (short name: CBASE)
2. Easyfundraising (www.easyfundraising.co.uk), our charity name being Council for British Archaeology South-East
3. Amazon (through your Amazon account www.amazon.co.uk) by selecting our charity (Council for British Archaeology South East) under your account settings 'Programs and Features' (desktop) or 'Settings' (smart devices) and selecting 'AmazonSmile'

Supporters having difficulties in setting up such a service are welcome to contact us at cbasoutheast@hotmail.com.

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 **May 1st** - please send any May, June and July items by **April 21st**

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

 www.facebook.com/CBASouthEast and  cbasoutheast.bsky.social