

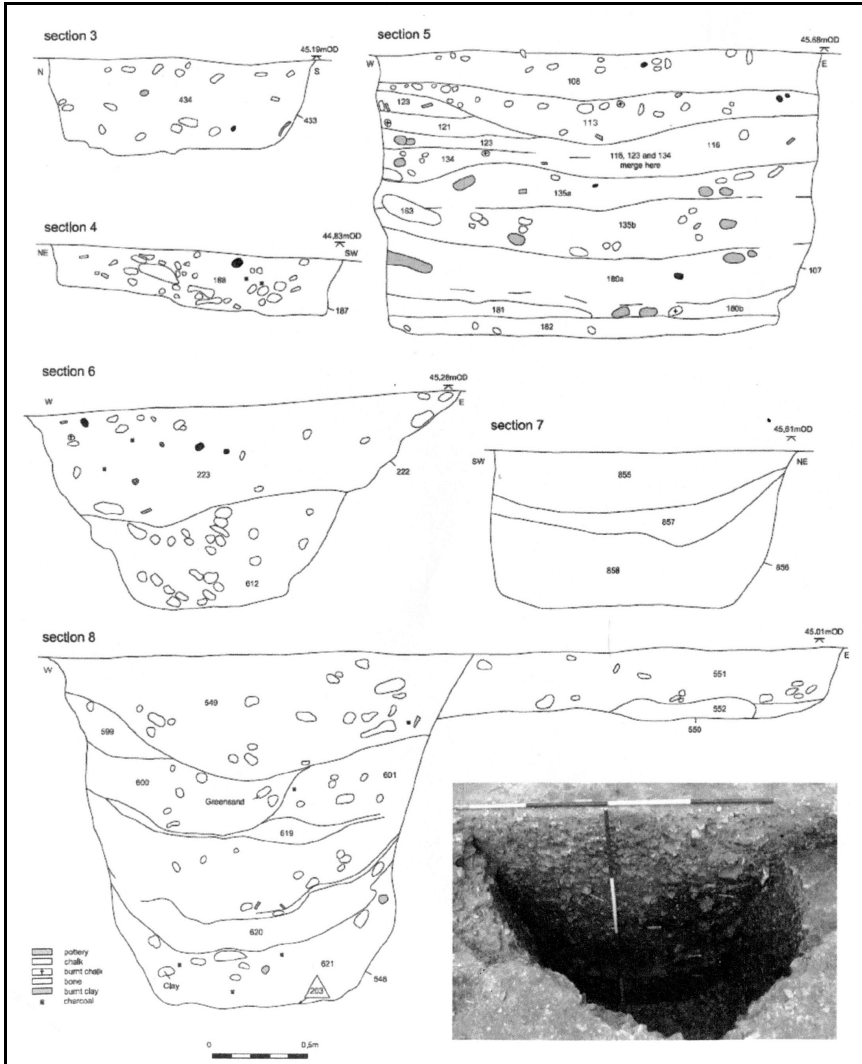
THE EASTBOURNE NATURAL HISTORY & ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Founded 1867

SPRING NEWSLETTER

No 86

March 2016



A diagram showing the Iron Age pits found on St Annes Hill.
Read the report about Anna Doherty's talk on page 9.

EASTBOURNE NATURAL HISTORY & ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Founded 1867

PRESIDENT: Olive Woodall

LIFE VICE-PRESIDENT: Patricia Stevens

**ENHAS Pro Tem Chairman and
Ass. County Archaeologist**

Greg Chuter
County Hall
St Anne's Crescent
Lewes BN7 1UE
Tel: 01273 336177
Mob: 07500123634
gregory.chuter@eastsussex.gov.uk

Hon. Treasurer & Membership Secretary

John Warren
49 Prideaux Rd
Eastbourne BN21 2NE
Tel: 01323 731792
johnthepot_helen@lineone.net

Hon. Secretary & Newsletter Editor
(same contact details as John Warren)

Helen Warren

Programme Organiser

Lawrence Stevens
Leonard Stevens Saddlers
16 Crown St
Eastbourne BN21 1NX
Tel: 01323 734496

Committee: Derek Leppard, Alison Selmes, Patricia Stevens, Sheila Love

A Message from the Editor

Dear Members,

In this newsletter you will find reports on our recent talks, including the four Christmas speakers plus the January and February meetings.

You will also be delighted to hear about our 2016 Symposium (info. and booking form insert in this newsletter) see page 13 also.

There is news and a request for volunteers concerning the "Mornings Mill Farm Project" on page 12. We will have an update on this project after the AGM.

I am sure you will be interested to know about the new exhibition curated by Heritage Eastbourne: Making Tracks - Eastbourne's Bronze Age Mystery, which is coming up at the Pavilion on 21 March.

The next Newsletter comes out in June so please get articles to me before Monday 30 May. Thank you for your support.

Helen Warren Email: johnthepot_helen@lineone.net

Reports on the four speakers at our Christmas meeting

Robin Reffell - General Augustus Henry Lane Fox Pitt-Rivers

To a crowded meeting of 54 visitors and members, and despite a technical incompatibility problem with the laptop and projector, (rectified by Derek Leppard who kindly went home for a replacement laptop), Robin Reffell revisited his talk about Pitt Rivers of last AGM, with particular regard to an 1869 paper that Pitt Rivers presented, and to his survey of the earthworks on the Downs between Beachy Head and Chichester. The earthworks were all meticulously measured by tape and paces, and drawn to a high degree of clarity, and all are as topographically valid today as when drawn.



In contradiction of some fanciful and romantic contemporary interpretations of the sites, and possibly reflecting his own military training and background, Pitt-Rivers three principal concerns were to show 1. The earthworks were defensive works; 2. They were pre-Roman; 3. They were isolated forts, and not part of a system. He was at pains to point out that the “Castramentation”, or “planning and construction of a military camp”, ingeniously followed the contours of the features in the landscape where they were built, but had to admit that most ignored the classic requirements of a military camp laid down by the Romans, that in the vicinity of the barracks there should be always be an abundant supply of wood and nourishment, i.e. food and water. He was only mistaken about Mount Caburn, which we now know to have been an almost indefensible, early ritual site.

Pitt Rivers noted that the interiors of the “forts” were strewn with worked flints, hence pre-Roman, that entrances often had re-entering angles which seemed to protect them, but that the ditch was sometimes on the inside of the bank feature, assuming that there must have been wooden palisades, now lost. He always had a relic table, meticulously tabulating and recording all finds, believing that only the whole site and associated finds could tell the story of the place, unlike many contemporaries who were seeking treasure, or the ground plans of buildings.

Robin again recommended the Pitt-Rivers museum in Oxford, which I know from my own visit to be a fascinating collection. The place shows the amazing breadth of Pitt Rivers’ interest in the fields of anthropology and history. Another fascinating insight of a truly complete Renaissance Man.

Alan explained that this project was a practical attempt to relate the history of the town with reference to the buildings and streets, mainly to the east of the pier, roughly from TJ Hughes to Christ Church, Hanover Road, and the Redoubt. Why? There was great tourism potential in the area, with lots of local interest, and was a good way to draw people from the pier towards the Redoubt and the proposed new museum. It is initially funded from part of the £2 million committed to the town by David Cameron following the recent fire on the pier. The group were one of the six or so successful bids out of 44 applicants, they were awarded £47,000, and the scheme should be in place by April 2016, having taken a year's gestation.

There will be external story boards at the Pier Gardens, Marine Gardens, The Redoubt, Marine Parade island and Sea Houses Square, telling of the history of the location, including the hotels commercial history, Caffyns, Gowland's Library, Gilbert's bakery, and the first Russel & Bromley shoe shop. Blue dots will identify History Corner pop-in-points in supervised spaces, such as the Hippodrome, the Crown & Anchor pub, Leaf Hall, Christ Church, and the Redoubt Pavillion. These will have access to large screens with interactive programmes illustrating a walk down Seaside & Seaside Road, plus a walk along the prom. Apps for I pads and I phones will also be available, and there will be signposts to related facilities.

It is hoped to create a revenue stream from the niche retail sale of souvenir goods, which should be sufficient to service the attraction once set-up. Running costs should be small as the group will be run by Volunteers making a very interesting development for our seafront area.

Kevin Cornwell**Roman Brickwork from the Poplin Marsh Site**

Kevin had been asked to assess the assorted Roman building tiles and brickwork from the Poplin Marsh (PM) site, and explained his findings in relation to several other Roman sites in Sussex, ie Beauport Part, Kitchenham Farm, Asburnham, Castle Croft, Ninfield, Hartfield and Bridge Farm, Barcombe.

The PM examples were dated to 40-120 AD, from a single piece of dating evidence, interestingly, a very similar date to the seafront villa site. There were 419 pieces to assess, with the fabric having lots of occlusions, flint or grogs of pre-fired ground up clay, with many standard "tegular" roofing tiles, square, flat tiles with raised edges; fewer of the "imbrek", or semi-circular half tube tiles to cover the raised edges; and some pieces of box flue tile. These were for inclusion in a wall, taking hot exhaust from a fire, indicating a hypocaust system.

Tegulae interlock along the roof fall, only needing nail holes at the bottom or eaves, these holes usually being square in section. Many can have stamps, such as the Classis Britannica stamp on examples from Beauport Park, and can have animal footprints, showing that the tiles were laid out to dry on the ground in the open. Many also have finger marks left by the maker. There were no stamps or footprints on the PM examples. Military roofs had less slope than civilian buildings, needing fewer tiles, and fewer nails. The edges and the methods of interlock can vary a great deal, and it is impossible to say where individual tiles were made. There is a tile kiln at Barcombe, which would have held 1440 tiles, though there may also have been a local kiln, now lost.

Combing features are usually found on the box flue tiles, as a plaster key when they are set into a wall. The PM example is 33mm thick, very abraded, with a leaf design and a roller chevron. The double-box flue from Eastbourne villa is identical to the PM piece, could they have been robbed out from the villa, or from a more local building? They are also found in other parts of Surrey and Sussex, again, it impossible to say where they were made.

Many of the tile bonding layers of Pevensey Castle are re-used tiles from robbed out buildings, and may easily have come from Eastbourne or PM. This was a fascinating insight into the minutiae of a mundane, and often overlooked or taken-for-granted group of finds.

Derek Leppard

Dry Valley survey of the Seven Sisters

This project was part of Mike Allen's survey of the Seven Sisters Holocene Archaeology Project of 2015, to study the early environment and action & effect of man's early occupation. This study extended the work of Martin Bell in 1977, whose first excavation was at Kiln Combe, Bullock Down, east of Birling Gap, when the 30 x 3 metre trench showed evidence of occupation in the fluvial and colluvium deposits to 3 metres, beaker pot shards, flint tools and waste. The pattern is very similar to Lewes and Hampshire, and to the Bourne valley excavations supervised by a young Mike Allen in the 1970s.

Where did the hill-wash come from? The Holocene period is post Ice Age, at about 10,000 BC. The ice sheet did not reach as far as Sussex, but the local chalk was broken down by the freeze and thaw conditions, to form a porridge called periglacial solifluxion, and this moved downhill with water or by geliflexion with ice, giving a very useful reference layer for the end of the ice age. Following this soils and vegetation began to build up, encouraged by wind born loess from the continent. Animals would have followed the vegetation, and humans followed the animals.

In the late Neolithic, tree cover on the tops of the Downs was removed and the soils ploughed for crops, which in heavy rain, caused mud slides or hill-wash, carrying silts to the bottom of the valleys. Sediments built up very quickly, and can provide a sealing layer, preserving ancient land surfaces.

The National Trust is sponsoring the investigation into the dry valleys of the Seven Sisters. The main difference between the earlier Kiln Combe excavation and the 7 Sisters being that KC was parallel to the coast, whilst the 7S are vertical to the coast, with an estimated one kilometre eroded away. No-one can know what the lower end of the valleys held, though a study of the cliffs shows some possibilities.

As the area is a designated SSI, The Nat Trust authorized only 1 metre square test pits, plus auguring, and Flat Hill Bottom, Limekiln Bottom and Rough Bottom were identified as possible targets.

Flat Hill Bottom had only 1 metre of hill-wash deposits at the cliff, and only 40cm in the actual bottom, so was abandoned. Rough Bottom was then selected with 1 metre of deposits in the actual bottom, so a one metre test pit was put in which promised good results, revealing pottery, and flints, with evidence for Neolithic farming, and Bronze Age field systems. Limekiln Bottom's hill-wash was even better, with a 1.2 m and 3.4 metre thickness, so another test pit was dug down to the periglacial layer. All soil was sieved to glean as much information as possible, transverse sections of all auger points were GPS located and plotted to show the spread of deposits throughout the valleys.

Rough Bottom's pit was not too far from the cliff edge, and 200 metres from the valley head. The level of finds was disappointing, with only 11 identified; one from a rabbit burrow, the rest from the pit & auguring, which included worked flint and periwinkle. Snail shells only survive in chalk, and are a useful diagnostic indicator. Limekiln Bottom had a similar topography, but the layers were far better defined, and there were 32 artefacts, including pottery and worked flint. The progression was clear from the Neolithic through to the late Bronze Age. Overall lots of stuff was found, with 68 worked flints, and 67 burnt flints, as well as the pottery. Evidence points to the main activity being between the late Bronze and early Iron Age.

The Holocene investigation is still progressing. Future work will take place in October at Flagstaff Bottom, and Gap Bottom, which has a gentler slope, just north of the dewpond. It is just outside the area of the SSI, but the investigation will be similar, with limited intrusion. The Belle Tout shaft is still being sought, but may well be covered by big boulders, and survey work at the Belle Tout enclosure will begin in September 2016. There is still lots to do.

All speakers were thanked, and enthusiastically applauded for their most interesting presentations.

Report by John Warren

David told the meeting that his main interest is Roman roads, and celebrated the recent government release of Lidar data for the whole of England, which he used to illustrate the subject for this evening, which was the Roman road that runs from Hardham on the Chichester downs, where Stane Street runs north to London and crosses the Arun flood plain, where there was a Roman settlement, eastwards to Pevensy Castle, and possibly beyond.

Three main types of geophysics equipment with different capabilities and characteristics were used, all illustrated during the talk. Magnetometry is a passive unit which is very good at detecting metals, pits, ditches and linear features, though it is not so good at detecting walls and flints. A hand held metal detector works in a similar way but is much more pro-active. Ground resistance or resistivity surveys may be more suitable, which records the resistance to an electrical charge, or the third method, ground penetrating radar, which can be used at different depths to build up a layered effect of what is under the ground. The three methods complement each other, and are best used together to give a comprehensive overview of what may be lurking beneath the ground.

The north to south rivers across Sussex are effectively roads with boats, linked by the east – west road. The Arun settlement is located in a typical easily defensible position, in a bow in the river. The causeway across the floodplain was built raised high, and is still visible on the Lidar scan, despite nearly 2,000 years of alluvial deposits, clearly showing the start of the Roman road. Further similarly located settlements are on the Adur, the Ouse at Barcombe just north of Lewes, and at Arlington on the Cuckmere before running through to Pevensy. A settlement at Hassocks, between the Adur and the Ouse is not on a river, there being none available. It was suggested that it needed to be there as a convenient stop for bullock carts, the distance between the two rivers being too great. Further roads run north from each of the settlements.

The Adur settlement has the main group of houses to the east of the river, with a smaller group to the west of the crossing. There is little left of the Hassocks settlement, the area being very disturbed by a combination of a large sandstone quarry and the modern town, but the settlement at Barcombe is most interesting, in a river bend as usual with the main group of buildings on the east bank, with the villa site a short distance away. The villa has an unusually large bath house an inconvenient distance from the villa towards the settlement, and it was suggested that it may be that size, and distance from the villa, to allow it to be used by the population of the settlement, which included some industrial areas, (i.e. a very large clay pit or quarry and associated tile kiln), though it may just have been located to take advantage of

a good water supply. The London towards Lewes road was found to stop at Barcombe on the east bank, where there was most probably a port. It was an agricultural area and could have acted as a hub for local farms, who brought their produce to be stored in a supposed granary, to be shipped on. The settlement has a very interesting double ditched enclosure, with a grid of metaled and un-metaled roads which are still not fully understood, but the most interesting thing is of a newly discovered road running south on the west bank, which is still being surveyed and investigated. Roman roads were metaled for the heavy goods wagons, to stop them becoming rutted and boggy, whilst unmetaled roads were probably drove roads for beasts.

Roman roads are not always straight, but often follow the easiest contour between locations, and cross rivers and flood plains at right angles, which can cause zig-zag effects. Evidence of the road was found at Moulton Plane, near Ripe, a boggy area in the low weald, and Laughton Place, also near Ripe, which was built beside the road to take advantage of it. Moving on to Arlington, the area was completely trashed to build the reservoir in the mid last century. A map showed the defensible bend in the river which was used to create the reservoir, and there were reports of stone footings being found, but what would have been the target area for the main settlement was all excavated away to create the void for the water and to make the retaining bank, destroying most of the evidence, though tantalising fragments remain to hint that a settlement was there.

The road was thought to terminate at Pevensey, but the name Anderita for Roman Pevensey, could be interpreted as “Long ford” or “Ferry”, and it was postulated that instead of terminating at the Classis Britannica fort, the road could have crossed the marsh, and travelled on to another Classis Britannica establishment at Beauport Park, or further. That theory waits to be investigated.

The very comprehensive survey along the length of this road complements the work of Ivan D. Margary during the last century, though it did prove that he had been mistaken with some details of the route, but of course he had to manage without the marvellous technical equipment described during this talk.

Mornings Mill Farm is just south of Polegate, where the Roman road goes east –west, and is right on the edge of the Willingdon Lagoon. The location is very similar to Pockocks Field, which has so recently yielded such good results. The prospect for using archaeological geophysics of various sorts on that site is very exciting.

There was a lively Q&A session, and the assembled meeting warmly applauded this fascinating insight into practical geophysics.

The Extensive Iron Age Settlement on St. Annes Hill by Anna Doherty

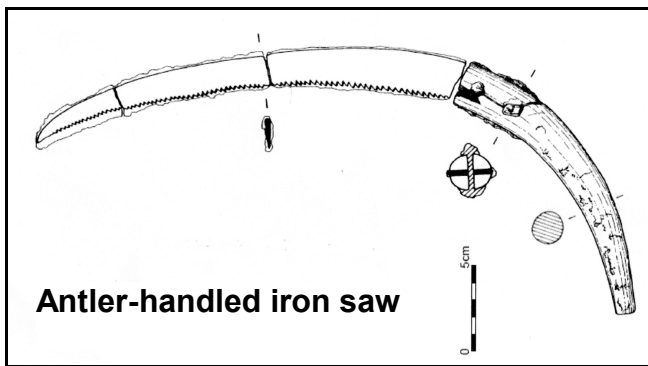
Anna explained that since the 1990s extensive fieldwork had been done on this site. Initially it was undertaken by ENHAS under Pat Stevens, followed by Archaeology South East with Chris Greatorex. Anna knew that some present had first hand experience being involved with the ENHAS excavations. Her remit was to look at the Iron Age site records and prepare a report for publication. The environmental evidence from the 1997/98 excavations had been recorded by handwritten paperwork, not digitally; consequently Anna's first task was to create a digital record making a simple register for the different finds.

Although the site had been known about since Victorian times it was Lawrence Stevens in the 1980s that firmly established that it was Prehistoric. When building work was proposed, Pat Stevens (ENHAS) found further finds including a barrow ditch, quern stone, spinning whorl, possible oven and Iron Age pits together with Saxon graves.

In 1996, with the vacation of ECAT from the site, Chris Greatorex and his team excavated a large area finding many more Saxon graves and 114 discreet features that were storage pits. There was no convincing evidence of structures but there was a large open space that might have been the position of a round house, or a ploughed out Bronze Age barrow, or possibly a space kept for ceremonial gatherings. However, people were visiting the site if not living there during the 1st and 2nd centuries as coins, animal bones and pottery sherds were found in abundance.

The most interesting discoveries are the storage pits, which have been interpreted as grain stores; grain kept in a sealed pit for ten years is still viable to germinate, proving very useful in years of famine. [See illustration on the front cover of this Newsletter.] The pits have straight sides, flat bottoms and flat tops, the deepest is two metres, and shallowest pits were c.0.1-0.2m (on average they were c.0.5-0.75m). Beehive shaped pits have been found elsewhere in West Sussex and it is believed that this keeps the grain better, but none were found here. The finds from the pits included fifty kilos, or 5,000, pottery shards, spinning whorls, a honestone and much animal bone, mostly from sheep but a few pig and dog, and much shell. These finds could be interpreted as ritualistic objects but they could equally well be domestic waste, making the pit a midden. One theory is that ritualistic deposits were made after the grain had been removed.

The grain-drying oven, Lodsworth-style rotary quern, and reaping hook, show that this was a community that relied upon agriculture. The quern, imported from West Sussex, could have symbolic properties of life and death, as there is evidence of a repair using pitch. Querns and mills turn up in folk law e.g. The Ballad of John Barleycorn!



Other significant finds are the antler-handled iron saw, and the coins, which include copper alloy potins and a Roman gold stater. Fragments of human bone were also found, relating to one infant and two adults. These bones showed signs of violence but the cut marks could have been made after death.

What evidence is there that the deposits were ritualistic? Both the quern and antler-handled saw were found at the base of pits. In the base of another pit, c.25000 grains of spelt wheat, i.e. four kilos, of burnt wheat grains was found although other pits had no finds. Depositing these goods may have been a custom learnt over the years, the later midden layers might have just been following the tradition. The location was used for between 100 and 200 hundred years. A similar site, which was in existence for a longer time was Mount Caburn with 130 pits; here the pits contained broken weapons of war. Like St Annes Road this is on the summit of the hill and would have been visible from a distance. At both places excarnation by exposure was probably practised. It is interesting that recent early Iron Age discoveries at Pockocks Field have a deposition of animal bone; maybe some places were more concerned with husbandry rather than arable agriculture. Pockocks Field could have been a site of settlement with a religious, ceremonial site at the top of the hill.

The Romans were certainly aware of this site as amongst the finds were sherds of grog-tempered Roman pottery and Samian ware, plus a first century Roman brooch found on the Roman track way. This track way runs parallel to St Annes Road, crosses the site, and may have linked the Roman villa near the pier with the area of Poplin Marsh and Pockocks Field, where it is suspected another Roman building was located. There are several medieval windmills that appear to be on the line of this ancient road. The northeast alignment of the Saxon graves may also indicate a road north of the graves; Saxon graves are quite often found in proximity to Prehistoric barrows.

There were several questions and some discussion following the talk. The audience of about sixty-three really appreciated the research, drawings and maps, which made up this excellent presentation.

News from David Rudling

2016 Sussex Archaeology Symposium

March - 19 - 2016. 10 am-5 pm. Venue: The Huxley Building, Brighton University, Lewes Road, Brighton.

The annual review of recent archaeological fieldwork and research in Sussex, covering a wide range of periods and topics. Speakers will

include: Lara Band, Tom Dommett, Mike Donnolly, Jaime Kaminski, Matt Pope, Mark Roberts, David Rudling, Jo Seamen, David Staveley, Alice Thorne and Scott Timpany. Book stalls. A Sussex School of

Archaeology event. Tickets: £35 including lunch.

Contact Details: Email: info@sussexarchaeology.co.uk

Tel: 01323 811785 www.sussexarchaeology.org

Roadside Settlements in Roman Britain and Beyond

April - 9 - 2016. 10 am – 5 pm. Venue: King's Church, Lewes. A

Sussex Archaeological Society event. The conference will explore

different aspects of Roman roadside settlements and debate whether there are many or any commonalities between them. Speakers

include: Martyn Allen, David Bird, Ernest Black, Paul Booth, David Calow, Karen Jeneson, David Millum, Rob Wallace, and Steve Willis. Tickets: £40 (£25 student rate) including lunch.

Contact Details: Email: members@sussexpast.co.uk

Tel: 01273 405737 (Tuesday -Friday, 10 am-3 pm)

<http://sussexpast.co.uk/event/roman>

2016 Holleyman Archaeology Lecture:

Recent work on the Mesolithic of the coast and wetland edge in Southern Britain

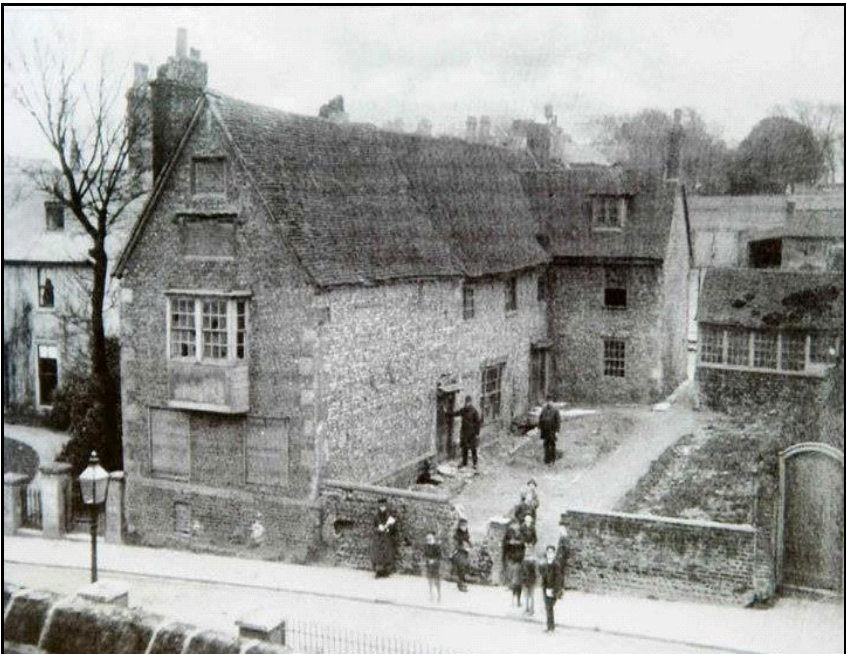
April - 21 - 2016. 7.00—9.00 pm. Venue: Fulton Building Lecture Theatre A, University of Sussex, Falmer.

Speaker: Professor Martin Bell (University of Reading). The lecture will be followed by a wine reception. A joint Sussex School of

Archaeology and Sussex Archaeological Society event. Tickets: £10.

Contact Details: Email: info@sussexarchaeology.co.uk

Tel: 01323 811785 www.sussexarchaeology.org



The Jesus House, which once stood facing the Church. Just one of the features that will be discussed at the Symposium.

The Mornings Mill Farm Project

With the kind permission of the farmer, David Vine, the Mornings Mill Farm Project continues to gather pace. This is an exciting joint project between ENHAS and Eastbourne Museum Service.

The team are currently researching the historical ownership and use of the land. They have already spent some time at the Keep as well as gathering other local information.

The survey work will comprise geophysical survey, metal detector survey (plotting finds made by the Eastbourne Metal Detector Club) and a walkover and earthwork survey. This will hopefully start about Easter time with a geophysical survey and some auguring followed by an archaeological excavation in the summer.

There will be an update at our meeting on 22 April, after the AGM.

If you would like to take part in any aspect of the project please contact Greg Chuter, Project Leader: Tel: 01273 336177 Mob: 07500123634 Email: gregory.chuter@eastsussex.gov.uk

The Eastbourne Urban Medieval Excavation Project

Birley Centre, Carlisle Road, Eastbourne BN21 4EF
Saturday 30th July 9.30 am—5.00 pm

Our third Eastbourne Archaeology Symposium will feature the Archaeology of Bourne and its urban nucleation around the Parish Church of St. Mary the Virgin. As a result of the Society's Eastbourne Urban Medieval Excavation Project, the remains of the Gild* House of the Brotherhood of Jesus and those of Eastbourne's first vicarage were excavated together with six early cellars and seven wells. The seven year excavation that included the Bourne Valley Excavation revealed some hitherto unknown evidence of the towns early history. The event will be of interest to all those who study the history of our town.

The present incomplete programme will include talks on such historic standing buildings as the Lamb Inn, the Old Parsonage and Gildredge Manor House. Several specialists will speak on the enormous number of artefacts discovered during the excavations.

The Committee is anxious that members should have ticket priority. Tickets are £10 each and will be available to members exclusively up to and including Friday 22nd April – the evening of the Annual General Meeting. Ticket applications should be made to the Treasurer, John Warren by downloading information from our website: www.eastbournearchaeology.org.uk or by returning the application form enclosed in this newsletter. The numbered programme ticket will not be available before 22nd April.

Members and visitors can save the Society postage by collecting their numbered programme ticket at the AGM 22nd April or at our meeting on 10th June. Please note that members may continue to apply after 22nd April on a first come first served basis.

** If you are thinking that this is an incorrect spelling then I must tell you that I am reliably informed by Lawrence that a Religious Gild was spelt this way!*

News from the Redoubt

Making Tracks - Eastbourne's Bronze Age Mystery

21st March - 13th November 2016 at the Pavilion

Bronze Age Eastbourne - Living on the Edge, is an exciting exhibition revealing the previously untold stories of Eastbourne's internationally important Bronze Age. For the first time, the ground-breaking discoveries in Shinewater Park will be explored, giving the public a chance to travel back in time to walk alongside the astonishingly rare Bronze Age trackway built by archaeologists using ancient tools of the time. The wooden trackway, which was partly excavated by archaeologists and volunteers during the redevelopment of Eastbourne's Shinewater Park in 1995, was at least 250m long, and although it was hewn from oak, it is thought to have only taken around one year to build. The raised timber platform - buried under several feet of clay - is thought to be part of a small settlement or trading post dating to about 2,800 years ago and makes up part of a complex of timber trackways that criss-crossed the marshlands that once dominated the northern part of Eastbourne.

See some of Eastbourne's Bronze Age treasures and realise what made this location so special, putting the pieces of this prehistoric puzzle together to find out more about international visitors and human inventiveness. This free exhibition presents a display of British Museum artefacts never seen together before and tells the story of Eastbourne's Bronze Age discoveries.

In addition on Saturday 23 July there is a Bronze Age Day with the opportunity of making Bronze Age food, shoes and even flint making. Find out more about Eastbourne's Bronze Age at this family day and like the exhibition it is free!



Left: a decorated Bronze Age axe head, one of a pair, found in Terminus Road. Right: part of the reconstructed Shinewater platform that will be displayed at the Pavilion.

Also at the Redoubt

Discover the secrets of the Redoubt and solve Eastbourne's Bronze Age Mystery. The Redoubt Fortress and Pavilion exhibition opens its doors on 21 March with a packed programme of discovery from Bronze Age to WWI and a free vintage Summer Holiday programme.

Discover Eastbourne's journey from a Victorian seaside 'tennis town' to 1970's mass market seaside resort in the free Seaside Holiday exhibition from 23 July to 5 September, with 1940's bathing costumes, an exquisite Railway Porter's uniform heralding the days of luxury steam travel and Lewis Carroll's renowned bed desk, commissioned for his holidays in Eastbourne. With postcards, photographs and memories on display, travellers can leave their own memories at the exhibition while kids take part in themed activities.

Kicking off the holidays, the free Bronze Age Day on 23 July celebrates this season's Pavilion exhibition. With the opportunity to have a go at making Bronze Age food, shoes and even flint making, the fun family day uncovers more behind the exhibition. Opening on 21 March, Making Tracks: Eastbourne's Bronze Age Mystery recreates part of Britain's most significant Bronze Age sites, which caught the eye of archaeologists across the country when it was found in Eastbourne 21 years ago. The free exhibition unravels its mystery with a display of never before seen together artefacts from the British Museum.

In the Redoubt, a brand new WW1 exhibition uncovers the story of Sussex men showing the human side of war and its affect upon both the soldiers and the local community. With footage of soldiers marching through the town's train station, diary extracts, poetic sounds of the battlefield and a display of Eastbourne's very own Victoria Cross winner, younger visitors can also interact with a soldier's kit bag of interactive equipment to help them discover life as a soldier.

In October, two weekends of spooky Twilight Ghost Tours explore the creepy corridors of the fortress and a film festival in May during Museums at Night, ranges from a spine chilling screening of The Mummy (1959), complete with an introduction to Egyptian curses from a renowned Egyptologist, to a family friendly 'One of My Dinosaurs is Missing' combined with some fossil making fun.

Uncover many fascinating subjects at the monthly Culture and Cake talks, held on the third Saturday of every month and on 9 May, see Mercury pass across the sun through special solar telescopes on the gun platform at The Mercury Transit, a free astronomical event.

The Redoubt opens every day from 21 March until 13 November. Entry to the Making Tracks and Seaside Holiday exhibitions, cafés, parade ground and gun platform is free. Museum entry includes the WW1 exhibition and costs £4.50 per adult, £2.50 per child or £12 per family.

Every ticket includes a free return visit in 2016, or visit the free Bronze Age exhibition and complete the exhibition trail for free kids entry to the museum! For further information visit www.EastbourneMuseums.co.uk or telephone 01323 410300

Programme

Friday 11th March - The Prehistoric Archaeology of Jersey and its Environs - Matt Pope

Matt is the leading prehistoric archaeologist in the U.K. specialising in the Palaeolithic. Since 2010 he has helped to co-ordinate a multi-disciplinary team in the renewed investigation of La Cotte de St Brelade and the wider Quaternary archaeology of the Island of Jersey. He will give us an insight into his research and findings.

22nd April **THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** followed by an update on Mornings Mill Farm Project. Tea and coffee will be served after the AGM.

Friday 10th June

The Artefacts from the Pococks Field Excavations of 2014 - 2015 - Giles Dawkes

Following Giles illuminating presentation on the pre development excavation at Pococks Field he has agreed to return and update us on the assessment of the finds recovered and their relevance to Eastbourne's pre-history.

St Saviour's Church Hall, Spencer Rd, Eastbourne BN21 4PA

Meetings start at 7.30 pm, doors open 7.15 pm

Members free, visitors £2.50

Sunday 19th June **Landscape Survey Training with Greg Chuter**

Meet at 10.00am at Bo Peep car park, above Selmeston with a packed lunch.

Symposium 2016

Saturday 30th July - **"Eastbourne's Urban Medieval Excavation Project"**

See page 13 for details.

*

This summer the Society will be carrying out an extensive survey of part of **Mornings Mill Farm**, See page 12 for more details.

*

E: enhas.info@gmail.com or T: 01323 73179