



# Surrey Archaeological Sustainable Impact

Expanding and strengthening the  
Society's outreach



April 2020

Welcome to the April edition of the monthly e-letter updates for Surrey Archaeological Society's Heritage Fund 'Sustainable Impact' project.



We haven't updated since the COVID-19 lockdown measures began last month, when the Society had to cancel all planned courses, conferences and fieldwork until at least early June, with no definite dates yet in the diary for re-scheduling. We cannot say at this point if the digs at Cocks Farm Abinger in June or Old Park Farnham in late August will still run, but we will update as much as possible when we know more. Unfortunately, planning for the next few months is not easy, but we want to do everything we can to help ensure that members and all volunteers have resources to read and activities to do from home until we can get out and meet-up again!



We did manage to hold our Medieval Landscape day in early March, the Society's last event before closures, and it was well-received, due to the number of informative talks and interactive workshop element. Many thanks to Rob Briggs for co-organising and the map-based workshop, and also to Sally Jenkinson and Mike Page at SHC for their help with the day. We hope that we can arrange a follow-up day in due course, as interest was so high.

Although we will need to wait for classroom-based courses to resume, there are a couple projects and activities which have been arranged that can be done from home, for those interested (see the next page). Do follow the Society's page on Facebook for shared posts on resources put together by others, as well as SCAU's page ([Digging Surrey's Past](#)). SyAS' Prehistoric Group is also circulating regular newsletters with resources, news items and puzzles, so do email [rosemary.hooker@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:rosemary.hooker@blueyonder.co.uk) to be placed on the list.

For queries on volunteer opportunities, contact me at [outreach@surreyarchaeology.org.uk](mailto:outreach@surreyarchaeology.org.uk), and keep up-to-date via the website and social media ([@surreyarch](#)). Please stay safe and well, and I look forward to seeing everyone again soon.

Best wishes,

Anne Sassin

*Projects and Outreach Officer*

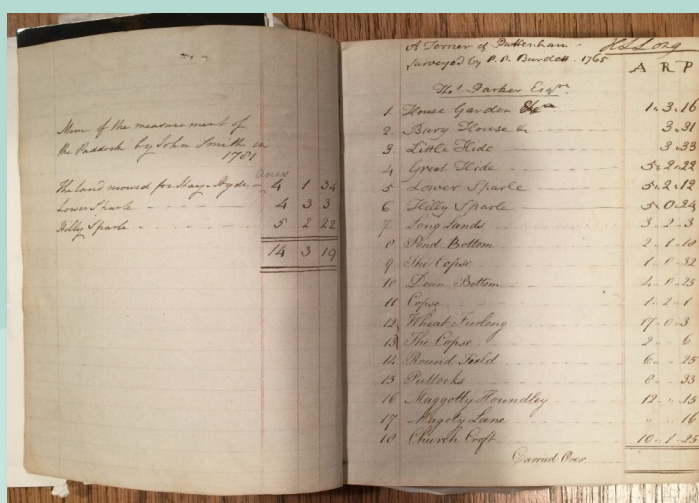


## Puttenham Terrier Transcription Project

Following last month's Medieval Landscape workshop, this project has been set-up in order to obtain an accurate transcription of the names and other information contained within the 1765 terrier of the entire parish of Puttenham (owned by the Puttenham & Wanborough History Society).

Although the document has been used by researchers before, it has never been the subject of research in its own right. It is hoped that the outcome of this exercise will be a full digital transcription of the terrier, which can make it accessible to many more people, and in the process, transcribers will become more confident in their abilities to comprehend historical handwriting as found in original documentary sources.

Participants will also hopefully think about the meanings of the names they transcribe and possible etymologies. Puttenham encompasses a variety of different geologies and historic land uses, and as these will be reflected to varying extents in the names recorded, the terrier provides an ideal source to get to grips with how names relate to the landscape. Only a small handful of Surrey parishes have analyses of all of their field-names, and a full assessment of those in 1765 Puttenham would be a real achievement.



A page has been set-up on the Society's website (<https://www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk/content/puttenham-terrier-transcription-project>), where photographs of each of the pages of the terrier can be downloaded from, as well as a table in which the contents of those pages can be transcribed. Participants are encouraged to download and upload content themselves to the website, for which they can request a log-in. For those who do not wish to directly access the content from the website, we will email you directly with the photographs and table, which you can then return via email once completed.

The completed transcriptions will be checked by the project lead, Rob Briggs, and, once accepted as accurate, added to a master transcription file. Occasional update emails will be circulated, informing participants of progress and highlighting names and themes of particular interest. All participants will receive the final completed terrier transcription.

A helpful resource and guide to studying the medieval landscape in Surrey, which has been compiled by Rob as a follow-up to the study day in March and is a useful starting-point for the transcription, can be found at <https://www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk/content/guide-to-researching-the-landscape-of-surrey-in-the-middle-ages>.

To register your interest, email [outreach@surreyarchaeology.org.uk](mailto:outreach@surreyarchaeology.org.uk).

## Flint Group



A new group is being formed in the Society which will provide regular hands-on training in lithics analysis, particularly to newer members or those with less experience looking at flints. No prior experience is needed, although an intent to commit longer term is desired. The group will meet on Sundays (to be determined but on average every six weeks) at the Abinger Research Centre (Hackhurst Lane, Abinger Hammer RH5 6SE).

The planned first meeting in March is now postponed, but if you are interested in getting involved and want to be placed on the mailing list for the group, please contact [out-reach@surreyarchaeology.org.uk](mailto:out-reach@surreyarchaeology.org.uk) (note that, due to space, numbers will need to be limited).

## GIMP (Free Image Editor) courses

Led by Elvin Mullinger (SyAS), these are online follow-up sessions for drawing at home being offered for those who have already taken at least one of the introductory courses. Practice packs and accompanying guidelines have been put together, which participants can work through on their own time, and follow-up as either a phone conversation or Zoom conference session to discuss.

The packs are sets of simple section drawing from the last dig at Cocks Farm 2019. At the end of the process, the final copies will be filed in the site record for archiving or for use in publications.

Although none are scheduled at the moment, there may be online sessions of the **Digital Line Drawing for Archaeology introduction** course planned, if there is enough interest and if lockdown restrictions stay in place over the next few months.

If interested in any of the GIMP sessions or practice packs, please email Elvin directly ([elvin.mullinger@gmail.com](mailto:elvin.mullinger@gmail.com)).

## Fieldwork

Although all fieldwork dates for March-May have been cancelled, we will update as soon as possible when we can determine if summer excavations will go ahead as planned, or if any revised dates have been set. In the meantime, stay home and stay safe!

