



# Surrey Archaeological Sustainable Impact

Expanding and strengthening the  
Society's outreach



July 2019

Welcome to the July monthly e-letter update for Surrey Archaeological Society's Heritage Fund Sustainable Impact project!



Most of our regular volunteers have been busy the last three weeks at Abinger, working hard in all weather conditions and uncovering several features of interest. There has also been good opportunity to undertake training and work on skills development on-site, with new volunteers being trained on the total station, or having their recording skills put to good use. Be sure to come along to the open day this Saturday July 13th (tours at 1100 and 1400) in order to see what has been found so far and learn more about this exciting site!



The past two weekends also saw not only an exciting Young Archaeologists Club (YAC) session at Farnham Castle, but a successful test pitting project at the Roman site of Holt Pound, near Farnham, where the group undertook a series of test pits and sondages to gain better understanding and tighter dating evidence of this early Roman ritual site. Further updates on its progress and its results will appear in a forthcoming bulletin.



As always, anyone who is interested in any of the training or volunteer opportunities (or who wants to discuss potential future ones) please do contact me at [outreach@surreyarchaeology.org.uk](mailto:outreach@surreyarchaeology.org.uk). Be sure to also keep up-to-date on activities or courses via the website ([www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk](http://www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk)) and on social media ([@surreyarch](https://www.instagram.com/surreyarch)).

Anne Sassin

*Projects and Outreach Officer*

## Community Test Pitting

As part of the project initiative to increase outreach potential and engage with more areas and local groups across the county, the community test-pitting events will continue with Nonsuch Park in September and Rowhurst again in October. If interested in any aspect of these programmes, whether digging, processing or just lending a hand, please contact [outreach@surreyarchaeology.org.uk](mailto:outreach@surreyarchaeology.org.uk).

### Farnham



On Saturday 3 August, the Society will be running an open day at Farnham Museum, which will include a trench to investigate a probable Tudor out-building first revealed in test pitting back in 2014. Assistance with the excavations (which will begin on 2 August) and open day welcome.

### Ewell

Volunteers are invited to book a slot for test-pitting at Nonsuch Park in the Old Stables Field over the Heritage Open Weekend (21-22 September). All sessions must be booked in advance.



### Rowhurst, Leatherhead

We will be returning to Rowhurst in October, with plans currently forming and tentative dates for the last week of the month (c. 24-31 October). If you wish to be included in the mailing for this, please get in touch.

## Monument Condition Assessment training course

This two-day course on 7-8 September at Hatchlands Park is led by the National Trust regional archaeologist Tom Dommett, who is responsible for ensuring that archaeological sites on NT land are monitored continually to help inform conservation work, identify problems and ensure future preservation. Once trained, volunteers will continue to visit and monitor sites throughout the year, taking photographs and collecting data. Participants will be encouraged to apply their training and be registered as NT 'HART' (Heritage Archaeology and Ranger Team) volunteers.



No prior training is necessary, but volunteers should be physically fit, able to walk to and around monuments (sometimes in remote locations), and have basic map-reading skills. Although this course is free, spaces are very limited, and we ask you to commit once signing up. A full schedule is to be confirmed. For any queries and to book, contact [outreach@surreyarchaeology.org.uk](mailto:outreach@surreyarchaeology.org.uk).



## QGIS courses

Led by Simon Miles ([loosegoat.com](http://loosegoat.com)), these one-day courses will provide an introduction to the uses of GIS and QGIS for archaeological purposes, to be followed by more advanced workshops into on the key concepts and capabilities of the programme.

All of the courses on QGIS will take place at Abinger Hammer Village School and run from 10:00-16:00. Tea and coffee will be provided, but please bring your own lunch. As these courses are part of the HLF training programme, they will be provided at no charge. However, booking is essential and spaces are limited to 5-6, so we do ask that you commit to attending, once signed up. Please email [outreach@surreyarchaeology.org.uk](mailto:outreach@surreyarchaeology.org.uk) to book and for any queries.

### Introduction to GIS and QGIS:

This is an ideal workshop for those that want to learn about what GIS is and how it can be applied in Archaeology. Using a free piece of GIS software called QGIS you'll apply what you've learned about GIS in QGIS. After learning the basics of software, you will discover how to setup new projects, create, load and edit data, plus explore open-data resources. You will also use data supplied from a recently excavated Roman site in Surrey to make the learning more real. Throughout the day you will discuss wider 'GIS in Archaeology' themes, based upon what you have learned.

This course primarily ran last year, but due to its popularity is being run again in 2019: Saturday 5 October (with more to potentially be booked if interest is high).

### QGIS for Archaeology:

This course will take a more advanced look at the uses of QGIS and will build upon the previous workshop, but attending that course is not a prerequisite of attending this one.

Using actual site data, combined with a series of Open-Data sources you will explore how to use QGIS. You will look at pre-excavation tasks such as geophysics, field walking and site grids, as well as post-excavation (find-plotting, digitising of trenches and geo-referencing).

This course is being run on Saturday 12 October (with more potentially planned to allow for those who wish to undergo this course).

**Abinger Hammer Village School, Hackhurst  
Lane, Abinger Hammer RH5 6SE**

Please note parking is not available at the school, but is elsewhere in the village, including the village carpark and village hall on Felday Road. Gomshall Station is also approximately half a mile walk away.

