



# Surrey Archaeological Sustainable Impact

Expanding and strengthening the Society's outreach



May 2019

Welcome to the May monthly e-letter update for Surrey Archaeological Society's HLF Sustainable Impact project. It's been a very busy month with almost every weekend taken up with test pitting, and the digging is not finished yet!



The test pitting programme at Rowhurst, Leatherhead is now at the end of its first season, and raised as many questions as it answered. In addition to a series of test pits spread across the site, four small trenches were excavated this season, and even the volunteers who had never dug before became adept at identifying the Roman and Iron Age pottery which was uncovered. The open day in particular was a great success, with over 200 visitors, and many thanks are due to Nigel, Lyn and the whole team for making the dig so successful, and of course our hosts at



the Fire and Iron Gallery. Keep in touch for further updates and developments on the Rowhurst project, which is due to resume in the autumn.



Dates are not yet quite in the diary for the autumn and winter training courses, but we hope to have more in place by next month.

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)) – where you can also find details on membership and how to join the Society! – 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 one more day at Bourne Hall, Ewell this May, and resume with Farnham in July, Bletchingley in August, 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).

### Ewell



On Saturday 25 May, there will be an open day at Bourne Hall (11:00-16:00) for the public. Volunteers to help with the test-pitting would be much appreciated.

Participants are also 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.

### Farnham

A weekend of community test pitting at Holt Pound will run on 6-7 July, a site which produced a large amount of Romano-British metal objects in the 1980s. On Saturday 3 August, the Society will also 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 are likely to begin from 1 August) and open day welcome.



### Bletchingley

As part of the Mesolithic Hinterlands of Surrey project, test-pitting will take place in the Bletchingley area over select weekends in August (tentatively 10-11 and 17-18) and will specifically focus on areas of flint scatters. Please send expressions of interest.

### Excavation

The latest season of excavation will take place at Cocks Farm, Abinger this June-July, exploring the Roman and Iron Age features in the field adjacent to the Roman villa. The dates are Saturday-Wednesday 15-19 June, Saturday-Wednesday 22-26 June, Monday-Wednesday 1-3 July, Saturday-Wednesday 6-10 July and Saturday-Tuesday 13-16 July.

Priority will be given to Surrey Archaeological Society and Roman Studies Group members but it is open to non-members too. New volunteers are expected to commit to five days over the course of the month. Students are welcome and work experience students can be accommodated. If you are interested in taking part, please contact Nikki Cowlard at [nikki.cowlard@btinternet.com](mailto:nikki.cowlard@btinternet.com).

