



Surrey Archaeological Society

No 28

April 2023

E-newsletter

Welcome to the Society's April e-newsletter, which highlights a few of the various events – conferences, lectures, training sessions, news items, etc – which we hope to be of interest to our members. Although general queries should continue to be directed to Hannah (info@surreyarchaeology.org.uk), those interested in volunteer opportunities or general outreach can contact me at outreach@surreyarchaeology.org.uk. Please also keep up-to-date via the website and social media ([@surreyarch](https://www.instagram.com/surreyarch)) for group and event updates.

Anne Sassin (*SyAS Outreach Projects Manager*)

West Horsley Place geophysics



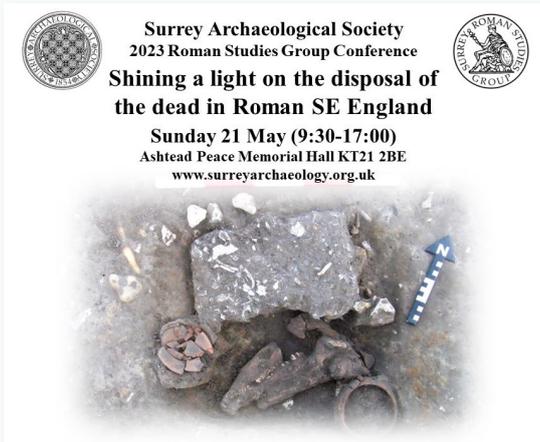
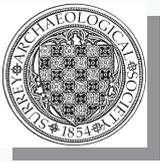
Volunteers are invited to take part in geophysical survey of the lawn surrounding historic West Horsley Place, a house which has undergone extensive development from its medieval origins and 15th-century core. Investigation by the Domestic Building Research Group has suggested the 15th-century west range originally protruded further, which is hoped electrical resistance will help to reveal. The survey is currently scheduled for **Tuesday 16** and **Wednesday 17 May**. No prior experience is needed to take part. If interested, please contact outreach@surreyarchaeology.org.uk.

Albury Park test pitting

This June, the Society will be undertaking an exciting new test pitting programme at Albury Park, the now abandoned medieval settlement whose displacement half a mile to the west to Weston (the present day Albury) began in the 18th century. This year's pits will be focused across the course of the former east-west road which ran through to Shere, along which former cottage foundations can still be traced.



Tentative dates for test pitting are **Monday-Thursday 5-8** and **12-15 June**. Volunteers are needed for both finds and digging; no prior experience is needed. If interested in taking part, please contact Anne at outreach@surreyarchaeology.org.uk.



The disposal of the dead in Roman SE England conference

The Roman Studies Group announces its bi-annual conference to be held at Ashtead Peace Memorial Hall, Ashtead on **Sunday 21 May** (9:30-17:00). This conference aims not only to discuss evidence uncovered for death in the Roman period in the South-East and how it differs from continental practices, but also to explore what might account for the millions of dead that we do not see in the archaeological record.

Tickets are £15 and bookable on the [website](#).

10:00 David Calow (SyAS) Welcome

10:10 John Pearce (King's College London): 'Pale death, emperors and the enslaved: burial in early imperial Rome'

11:00 Tea and coffee

11:30 Timothy Champion (University of Southampton): 'Rethinking burial and disposal practices in the Iron Age south-east'

12:00 David Rudling (Sussex School of Archaeology): 'Roman burial practices in South-East England'

12:30 Sadie Watson (MoLA): 'Roman burial in London: a review of the evidence from the City and Southwark'

13:00 Questions

13:15 Lunch

14:15 Ellen Green (University of Reading): 'Fragmented stories: the potential of disarticulated remains for investigating Roman mortuary practices'

14:45 Claire Hodson (University of Reading): 'From roundhouse to villa; exploring revised perspectives of infant death and burial'

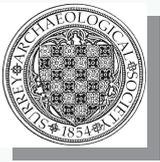
15:15 Tony King (University of Winchester): 'Human remains found at temple sites in Britain and Gaul'

15:45 Tea and coffee

16:00 David Calow (SyAS): 'Looking for the dead in Roman South-East England – with help from Northern Gaul'

16:30 Questions and discussion

16:45 David Rudling: thanks and disperse



Cocks Farm Abinger 2023 dig

The latest season of excavations in the field adjacent to Cocks Farm Roman villa will take place **17 June to 23 July 2023**. The plan is to further explore magnetometry features in the field adjacent to the villa, adding to our knowledge of activity from prehistory onwards.

Provisional dates are as follows: 17-20, 22-26 June, 29 June-3 July, 6-8, 13-17, 20-23 July. If you are interested in taking part in any part of the excavations, please contact us via romanstudiesgroup@btinternet.com.

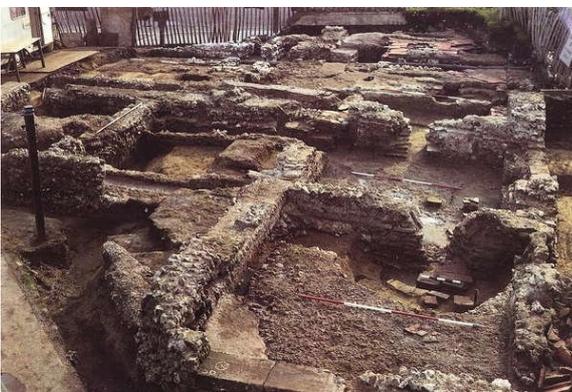
If you are interested in learning more, links to interim reports can be found [here](#).

Roman road near Ewhurst

Chris Gibson's Roman road search progresses. Work encouraged by the Roman Rural Settlement project has pushed the known line of the Roman road heading north west from Rowhook 1.4km further north from the last sighting at Coneyhurst Gill and has now almost reached Barhatch Lane. LiDAR images suggest possible traces near Chilworth, so the team want to see how far they can get. But what a time of year to excavate. Here, brave volunteers backfill a trench in Wealden clay. Just part of the joy of archaeology. Anyone from the Shalford-Chilworth-Albury area want to help? Contact Chris (chrisgibson01@btinternet.com). The detailed report is to follow.



Roman Studies Group 2023 visits



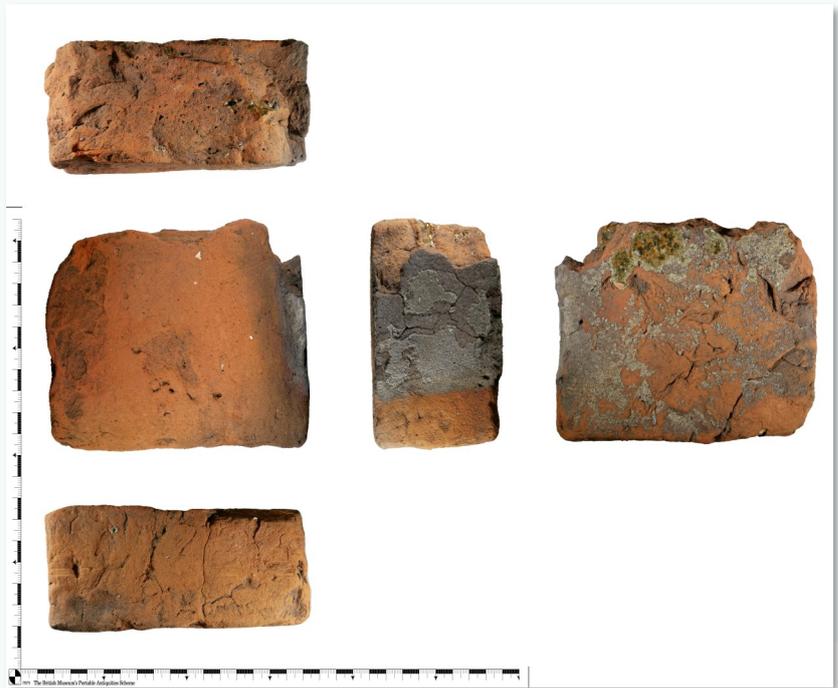
Three RSG visits are being planned over the next year. On **Saturday 11 June**, David Rudling has kindly offered to take the group on a walking tour around Roman Chichester, which will include the city wall, Novium Museum and bath house, the mosaic in the cathedral and the amphitheatre (cost £5). Following the group's visit last year, a visit to a Roman villa near Basingstoke will take place on **Saturday 26 August**, led by the site director. On **Sunday 1 October**, a visit to Crofton Roman

villa has been arranged, led by Brian Philp (entrance fee £2 or £1 for seniors). To attend any of these visits, please contact john.felton@ntlworld.com.



Finds from the FLO

Something a little different for #FindsFriday – a brick ([SUR-5838D3](#))! This incomplete post medieval brick is from an early 17th-century pottery kiln of the NE Hampshire / West Surrey border ware industry, excavated by Jeremy Haslam in 1972 and now lost under the M3. The brick is mould-made and one side has splashes of green vitreous coating in several places, which is most likely spillage from copper glazes used in the kiln.

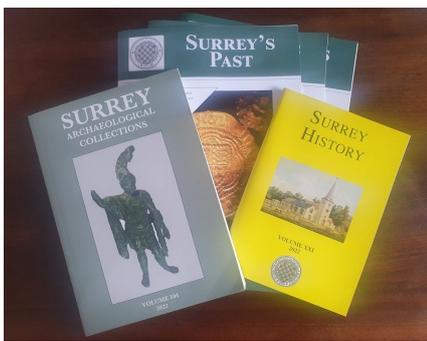


It was lovely to see pottery featured in the latest e-newsletter in the 'Finds from the FLO' section and great to see that the type series of Phil Jones was being used. However, as a member of the Medieval Pottery Group, I feel that I have to point out that judging by the description of the fabric given, the code used was incorrect, and I am worried that this may cause confusion to anyone using the Surrey codes to analyse and date pottery. If you read the description in Phil's type series and in the guide, Q2 only has sand inclusions. The text in the e-newsletter states that there are also tufa, iron oxide and flint inclusions. The Mediaeval Pottery Group would be very happy to have a look at the sherd and give a correct code and date.

Angela Mason (Surrey Medieval Pottery Group)

Have you renewed (or joined)?

Members are reminded that subscriptions for this coming year are now overdue, and you can renew [online](#) if you don't pay already by standing order. If you aren't yet a member, but are thinking about it, now is the perfect time to join!



Rates start at £6 per year for junior members (aged 16-20), with £12.50 for students and £30 for ordinary members (£5 associates). In addition to our publications (three issues of *Surrey's Past* a year, our annual journal *Surrey Archaeological Collections* and *Surrey History*), members have access to a wide range of volunteer fieldwork opportunities, research projects and special interest groups, many of which have their own lecture programmes and study days.



The History of Gardening in Surrey

On **Wednesday 3 May** at 17:50, Surrey History Centre will be running an online Zoom talk for National Gardening Week, 'Planting ideas: sources for the history of gardening in Surrey'. This illustrated talk explores the wide range of sources held by SHC that can be used to study the history of Surrey's gardens – ordnance survey maps, tithe and enclosure maps, charity records, deeds, estate plans, sale particulars, family papers, photograph albums, business and society records, watercolours and engravings can all be used to uncover the history of garden design, planting and the skills of Surrey's gardeners over some seven centuries. Tickets are £5. To receive the joining info and link, please book a place [online](#).

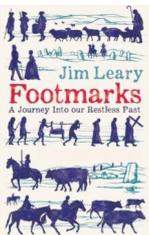


Netherne, c1960: a Surrey mental hospital in focus and Maps for Family Historians

Two other Surrey Heritage online talks will be running in May. On **Wednesday 17 May** at 17:30, a talk for Mental Health Awareness Week will focus on Netherne Mental Hospital, Coulsdon, which was opened by Surrey County Council in 1909. **Wednesday 24 May** will feature Maps for Family Historians and explore how maps can enhance our understanding of a local area and shed light on the places where our ancestors lived their daily lives. To receive the joining info for all Surrey Heritage online talks, please book a place [online](#).

Recent items acquired by the Library

In March, the following [new items](#) were acquired by the Library. To view other [recent acquisitions](#) or browse the online Library [catalogue](#), please visit the website.



Footmarks: a journey into our restless past

As part of the CBA 'This is Archaeology' lecture series, an online talk on **Thursday 25 May** (19:00) by Jim Leary will discuss some of the evidence for mobility in the archaeological record. Free for CBA members; £5 for non-members. To book, see the [website](#).

For more information on opportunities in your local region, be sure to follow SCAU (education.scau@surreycc.gov.uk and [@diggingsurreypast](https://twitter.com/diggingsurreypast)), as well as the Council for British Archaeology South-East (www.cbасouth-east.org and [@CBASouthEast](https://twitter.com/CBASouthEast)).