

Welcome to the Society's May 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.surreyarchaeology.org.uk)) for group and event updates.

Anne Sassin (*SyAS Outreach Projects Manager*)

Surrey World War Two Bomb Incident Map



An exciting new project to create an interactive map of WW2 bomb incidents in Surrey has been set-up by Surrey Heritage and volunteer Martin Stilwell, starting with a pilot in the Woking area. The first map has been set up on [Exploring Surrey's Past](#). The volunteer work will be at different levels, from creating data to map the bomb incidents, to more detailed research work about individual incidents from sources held at both SHC and other archives. If interested in being involved in this ongoing project, please email juliet.warren@surreycc.gov.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.



Confirmed dates for test pitting are **Monday 12 to Thursday 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.

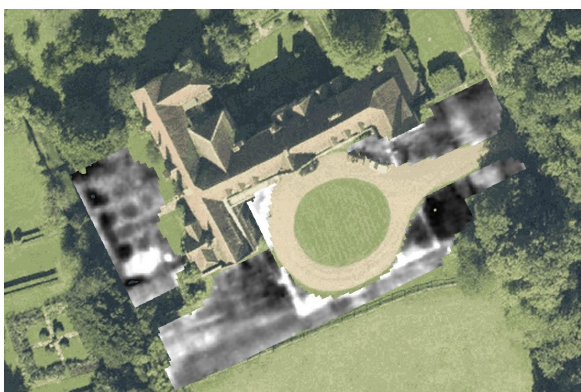


West Horsley Place geophysics

This month saw a very successful two day resistivity survey at West Horsley Place, where a fantastic group of volunteers learned all about geophysical survey and helped with a high resolution 0.5x0.5m survey of the lawn and gardens surrounding the house. The survey supplements nicely what we know from the excavations under Surrey County Archaeological Unit last September, which exposed features including former garden walls across the frontage of the house which are apparent on the 1735 estate map, a brick-built soakaway and foundations of what was likely a predecessor to the current building. The house's west wing, which has been dendro-dated to the early 15th century by the Domestic Building Research Group, originally protruded further south than its current layout. Its foundations also show up nicely in the recent survey, as do former garden paths and beds in the lawn west of the house.

The team of volunteers worked well in two groups, with the Society's second Frobisher taken out for the first time to allow two lawn surveys to take place at the same time. We look forward to getting back to West Horsley later in the summer when we carry out a magnetometry survey over the same area – in the meantime, many thanks to all those who took part!

For more on the house's history, you can read various [history articles](#) on the trust's website, including those on last year's [community archaeology week](#).



Resistivity survey at West Horsley (left), which maps out areas with high resistance (white), such as walls and building foundations, against low resistance (black) features. The former layout of the house and its extended west wing, as well as the garden walls and entrance path in the front, can be seen on the 1735 estate map (right), which is on display in the house.





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 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.

Guildford Guides 40th anniversary

On **Wednesday 21 June** at 19:00, the Guildford Town Guides have organised a public lecture by Dr Catherine Ferguson on the 'Restoration of the Loseley Chapel' at the Guildhall (131 High Street Guildford GU1 3AA). Dr Ferguson supervised the restoration of the Loseley Chapel a few years ago. In this talk, she will tell us how the discoveries made during the excavation and new research in the Loseley archives have revealed more about the history of the chapel and its remarkable connections with the wider literary and cultural world. Tickets are £10 including a glass of Albury Vineyard wine. To book, please visit [Eventbrite](#).

Recent items acquired by the Library

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



Finds from the FLO

This themed #FindsFriday post highlights a bit of royal memorabilia recorded with the PAS, a copper alloy medallion commemorating the coronation of George III and Queen Charlotte on 22 September 1761 ([SUR-BC7D32](#)). Such finds are interesting little bits of social history, so we record them when we can!

19 May 1649 marks the anniversary of England being declared a commonwealth and briefly becoming a republic. What followed was 11 years of general misery, but it left us some interesting coins such as this tiny silver halfpenny ([SUR-6CFDAB](#)) from Bletchingley, which bears the shields of St George and of Ireland on its obverse/reverse respectively.



Surrey Historic Environment Record staffing update

The current Historic Environment Record (HER) Officer, Rob Briggs, is on sabbatical from Surrey County Council until 28 September 2023. During this time, Shân Mughal will be covering the HER Officer role. With a background in archaeology and conservation, Shân joined the Surrey HER team in 2021. Alongside Emily Brants and Jazmin Sexton (HER Assistants), the HER will be operating business-as-usual during this period, and is contactable at her@surreycc.gov.uk.

Festival of Archaeology

From **Saturday 15 to Sunday 30 July**, the Council for British Archaeology will once again be hosting the annual Festival of Archaeology, this year themed around Archaeology and Creativity. Events will be taking place all across the county. To register an event or to see what to attend, visit the [website](#).





Dance and Archaeology at Holmbury Hill

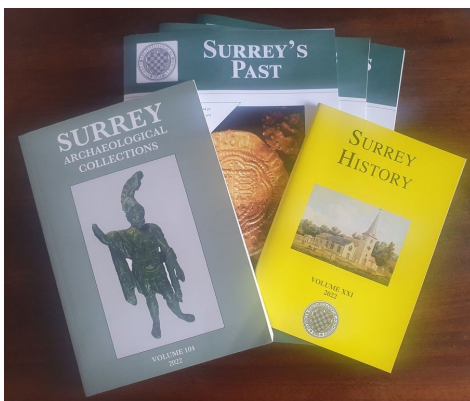
Building on ten years of work with dance in museums and her 'Dancing in Caves' project, Surrey-based choreographer Katie Green is researching a new dance and archaeology project with support from Surrey Hills Arts and the National Lottery through Arts Council England to coincide with this year's Festival of Archaeology. Over the summer, she will be working with archaeologists, a film-maker, writer, composer and group of dancers in two sites in Dorset and Surrey, particularly exploring the ways that archaeological artefacts and sites can yield new information about humans' relationship with the land through time, and to consider ways of bringing this to life through dance, story-telling and music.



On **Tuesday 18 July** (13:30-16:00), the public is warmly invited to Holmbury Hill for a sharing of work-in-progress and new ideas, including a guided walk up to the Iron Age hillfort at Holmbury Hill for a talk at the summit from Judie English and then back to Holmbury St Mary Village Hall. Short performances of new movement ideas will take place along the walk, with an opportunity for refreshments and discussion back at the hall, as well as a chance to feed back and inform future research.

This is a free event, open to everyone who enjoys dance, archaeology and walking in the local landscape! Capacity is limited, so please book your place in advance from [Eventbrite](#).

Thinking about joining?



If you aren't yet a member of SyAS, 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 three issues of *Surrey's Past* a year, annual journal *Surrey Archaeological Collections* and *Surrey History*, members have access to a wide range of fieldwork opportunities, research projects and special interest groups, many of which have their own lecture programmes and study days. To join, please visit our [website](#).

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