



Surrey Archaeological Society

No 34 October 2023

E-newsletter

Welcome to the Society's October 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*)

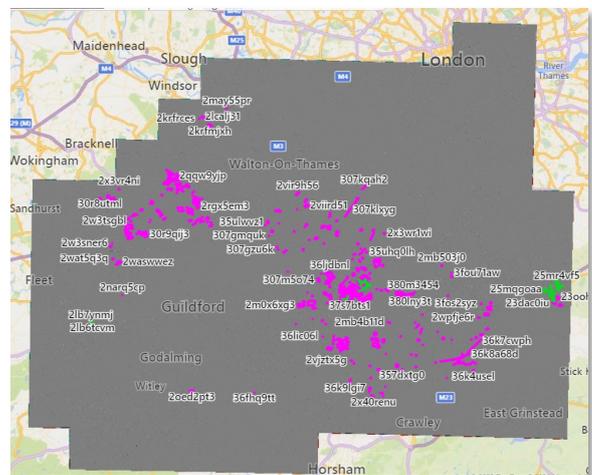
Surrey LiDAR Portal full county coverage!

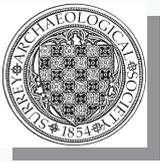
We are thrilled to finally be able to announce the addition of the full county 1m LiDAR coverage for Surrey to the [Surrey LiDAR Portal](#). This long awaited dataset, only released as a composite in the early summer, makes available for the first time LiDAR imagery for all of Surrey, including the historic county.

The Portal is an interactive citizen science tool which hosts all of Surrey's LiDAR, including higher resolution datasets, such as the 0.5m coverage, which includes Surrey Heath Borough, and a small area of 0.25m data surrounding Limpsfield. With the addition of historic maps, courtesy of Surrey History Centre, and HER data, a wealth of information is available to help in analysing the imagery.

LiDAR has enormous potential to uncover previously unknown archaeological features, and by helping map and interpret these potential sites online, volunteers can work to build a more complete story of the local landscape. Anyone is welcome to register for a free account, which will allow access to the interactive map. Volunteers who would like to be more involved and help in digitising potential features should read the available tutorials and are encouraged to attend online training sessions. Dates for forthcoming winter training sessions and 'groundtruthing' fieldwork activities will be announced shortly, but in the meantime, please email outreach@surreyarchaeology.org.uk with any queries.

Thanks to the kind and generous bequest of Mary Slade for the funding of the 1m coverage, who would have been greatly interested at this particular opportunity and method for studying the history and archaeology of Surrey.





Welcome to new librarian



Marie and Hannah

Welcome to Marie who is taking over the role of librarian when I retire at the end of November 2023. I started as the Surrey Archaeological Society's librarian in 2008, taking on the administrator role as well in 2016. Over my time the Society has moved from Guildford to Abinger and become almost completely automated. As a result, we have changed stores numerous times, involving moving a lot of boxes and undertaking stock rationalisation. It will be interesting to see the future developments.

Hannah Jeffery

Hello, I'm Marie and I have been appointed as Librarian at SyAS, taking over from Hannah when she retires at the end of November. I qualified as a librarian in 2005 and have worked professionally both in academic and NHS libraries. Supporting research and study, I've worked with NHS consultants, university and secondary school students helping them to search, find and use print and electronic research material. I will be working Monday and Tuesday, with the library open between 10:00-16:00, and I am looking forward to getting to know the society and its wealth of library material.

Marie Hounsome

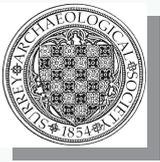
Roman Studies Group lectures

The next of this year's RSG lectures will take place on **Tuesday 7 November** at 19:30 on Zoom, featuring Professor Tony King on 'Meonstoke – temple or villa?'. Other talks this year include Dr Tim Young on 'Iron ores and smelting in Surrey and the SE', Emma Corke on 'Cocks Farm Abinger excavations in 2023' and Philip Smither on 'Reinvestigating Richborough: a new story for an old site'.

Whilst attendance is restricted to RSG members, if you are already a SyAS member you are welcome to join the group at a cost of £5 per year. See the [RSG page](#) for more details.



Many of the lectures are also recorded and available on the Society's [YouTube channel](#). This includes recent additions, Joanna Bird's talk on 'The Colchester Vase' from last year's AGM and David Calow's talk on 'Flexford and Godstone – two coin-rich Roman rural settlement sites in SE England' from October.



SHERF 2023

This year's Surrey Historic Environment Research Framework conference on **Saturday 25 November** will consider aspects of the history and archaeology of medical practice. This will be an online event held via Zoom. The Society AGM will take place during the lunch break and further information on attending the AGM will be available in due course. Booking for SHERF itself is now available; see the [website](#) for details.

Programme:

10:00 Open – Chair: Lyn Spencer (SyAS)

10:05 Lorna Webb (UCL): *The 9 herb charm – an archaeological approach*

10:45 Dr Martin Huggon (Bishop Grossteste): *Communities of the living, communities of the dead: hospitals in medieval social life*

11:25 Short break

11:35 Dr Judie English (SyAS): *Cranleigh Village Hospital – a revolution in bringing advanced medical care to a rural community*

12:15 Q&A

12:30 Lunch

13:00 AGM

13:40 Dr Mary Alexander (SyAS): *Guildford medics 1600 to 1800*

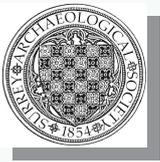
14:20 Dr Patty Baker (Dept of History, Virginia Tech): *The Multifunctionality and Meanings of Medical Tools in Ancient Rome*

15:00 Q&A

15:10 Close

Pills, Potions and Poison

Surrey Historic Environment Research Framework Online Conference 2023
Saturday 25 November (10:00-15:00)
surreyarchaeology.org.uk Tickets £5



Medieval Studies Forum Lecture/ AGM and Members Day

On **Thursday 16 November** at 18:00, the MSF will be hosting their annual lecture online via Zoom. This year's talk will be by Dr Gabor Thomas of the University of Reading, who will be speaking on 'Anglo-Saxon monasteries of the Middle Thames: new archaeological perspectives from Cookham, Berkshire'. Dr Thomas has been leading excavations at Cookham, close to the parish church and the river which has been producing new insights into the Middle Saxon period. This will be followed at 19:00 by the group's AGM. The lecture is free but registration is required in advance. Please visit the [event page](#) for the booking link.



An in-person Members Day meeting will also be held by the group on **Saturday 2 December** at East Horsley Village Hall. This will provide a chance for members to meet and socialise ahead of the festive season. Members are invited to offer short presentations to the group about research they have been carrying out in recent times or indeed to bring small displays. Please contact medforum@hotmail.co.uk with offers of contributions.

Prehistoric Group talk

On **Thursday 16 November** at 19:00, the PG will be hosting an online Zoom talk by Dr Matt Pope on 'Neanderthal People of La Mancheland: Exploring the Earliest Prehistory of the English Channel Region'. To register your interest, contact martintrose@aol.com.

Surrey Industrial History Group lectures

SIHG is continuing their online lecture series this autumn, with Thursday morning talks such as 'Beachcomber: the Secret Sunderland', 'Fireworks, Guns & Superguns' and more.



Any member of SIHG or SyAS who would like to receive details about joining one or all of these meetings, and don't already get details sent to them, should send their name and email address to meetings@sihg.org.uk.

Recent items acquired by the Library

In September, 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.



CBA-SE annual conference – What is new from Commercial Archaeology in the South-East?

This year's annual conference will be run jointly with the Sussex School of Archaeology and History on **Saturday 18 November** in person at Kings Church, Lewes, East Sussex, with an online option also available.

Tickets are priced £25 for the in-person conference fee, £20 for CBA-SE members and Sussex School Friends and full-time students; online viewing will be £13. The link for tickets is now available on [Eventbrite](#).

Speakers and their talk titles include:

Andy Hood (Foundation Archaeology): *Excavation of a rather fine pair of funerary barrows at Spelthorne Leisure Centre in late 2021-early 2022*

Hayley Nicholls (Archaeology South-East): *A new lowland hillfort at Chichester*

Jon Baczkowski (Chris Butler Archaeological Services): *Investigation of multiperiod site near Pevensey with complicated superficial geology/geoarchaeology*

Paul Wilkinson (Swale and Thames Archaeological Survey): *Watling Street – the corridor (or conduit) for Roman Sacred and Secular power*

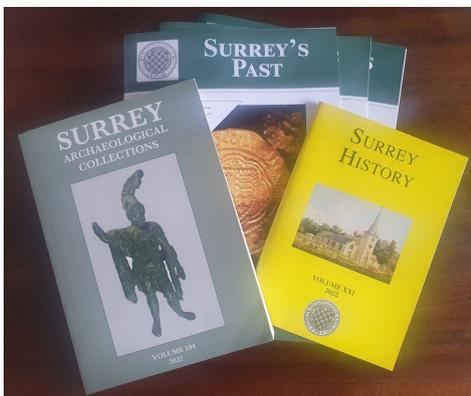
Odile Rouard (Thames Valley Archaeological Services): *A new take on a site at Water Lane, Angmering*

Diccon Hart (HB Archaeology and Conservation): *Buildings archaeology and survey*

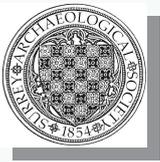
Mike Allen (Allen Environmental Archaeology): *Environmental archaeology at Isle of Sheppey, Ouse Valley at Lewes*

Letty Ingrey (Archaeology South-East): *Post-excavation of some Palaeolithic sites, including the 'giant handaxe' from the Maritime Academy site*

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](#).



St Mary's Guildford excavations lecture

A meeting to publicise the recent archaeological findings at St Mary's Church, Guildford will take place on **Saturday 18 November** at 10:30 in the church. This follows the under-floor excavations undertaken by UCL/ Archaeology South East at St Mary's. The main speaker will be Dr Mary Alexander, with questions and comments from the floor afterwards. All are welcome. On **Saturday 4 November** at 11:00 there will be a formal reburial of the excavated bones at the church.

Surrey Heritage Talks and Events

The autumn programme of Surrey Heritage events continues in November and includes:

Wednesday 8 November (Online, 17:30-18:45): Isabel Sullivan, Surrey Heritage – *The secret marriage of John Donne, and connected lives in Jacobean Surrey and beyond*

Saturday 11 November (Surrey History Centre, 10:00-15:30): *Surrey Local History Committee Autumn Symposium: Maps and Local History*

Wednesday 22 November (Online, 17:30-18:45): Dr Simon Jarrett – *Scenes from Surrey in the history of learning disability*

Times and ticket prices vary for each event. For further information and to book please see the [Surrey Heritage Events page](#).

Historic England Aerial Investigation Mapping data

Back in July, Historic England launched the [Aerial Archaeology Mapping Explorer](#), allowing users for the first time to explore all of the aerial mapping data that HE have collected over the last 30 years. Now Historic England has made this spatial data available to download to use in your own research. You can download these datasets for free from the [Historic England Open Data Hub](#), a source for open access spatial data from Historic England. The dataset is available in a variety of formats including as a shapefile, csv file and more. Find out more about the mapping tool and Open Data Hub [here](#).



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](#)).