

SUSSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL ROUND-UP (22nd October 2014 to 26th January 2015)

* volunteer opportunities

East Sussex

Battle: Battle Abbey. (NGR 574924 115696). (Site code: WAL 14. Director Chris Russell). A very small section of topsoil and turf was removed at the base of the south elevation of the wall which measured 1.35m in length and a maximum of 0.30m in width. A maximum of 0.17m of topsoil and turf was removed revealing unworked and unsorted sandstone blocks bonded with mid yellow lime mortar. Two new stones were revealed during the excavations, one in the extreme west of the trench and one at the extreme east. The blocks associated with this structure continued into the eastern and southern sections of the excavation. A single piece of tile or similar ceramic material was noted bonded into the wall construction (ASE).

Battle: 43 Lower Lake. (NGR 575179 115689). (Site Code: RLL 14. Director Catherine Douglas). Three archaeological evaluation trenches were excavated. The site was located in an area of land sloping from north to south. The Ashdown Sandstone Formation was encountered at 71.17m OD in the north-east part of the site, and at 69.35m OD in the south-west part of the site. An undated oval shaped pit was encountered in Trench 2, where it was sealed by a layer of colluvium. A large probable former cess pit, subsequently reused as a rubbish pit during the 17th to 18th century was identified in Trench 3. No medieval deposits were revealed relating to the nearby Abbey or the site of the Battle of Hastings, although a small residual assemblage of medieval pottery and tile suggests some activity of this date in the vicinity of the site (ASE).

Battle: Powdermill Lane. (NGR 574698 114994). (Site Code: BAD 14. Director Hayley Nicholls). The groundworks comprised the excavation of two short trenches which measured 4.2m and 3m in length, 0.75m to 0.8m wide and between 0.5m and 0.8m deep. No archaeological finds or features were identified within either trench (ASE).

Bexhill-on-Sea: Land to the north-east of Bexhill-on-Sea. (centred on NGR 575250 109010). (Site code: BLN 14. Director John Cook). A magnetometer survey is currently being undertaken as part of an on-going programme of works on the land that includes an historic farmstead assessment and field walking (ASE).

Bishopstone: New Barn, Manor Farm, Silver Lane. (NGR 548029 101273). (Site code: MFB 15. Director Hannah Green). An historic buildings survey was carried out at the site. The barn was constructed between the last quarter of the 18th century and the first quarter of the 19th century. The building was constructed as a small out threshing barn and forms a typical arrangement consisting of barn, yard and series of sheds within close proximity to a water source. All structures remain intact, with only small alterations to the byres of later construction towards the rear. The site is a good extant survivor of a typical South Downs barn (ASE).

***Bishopstone Tidemills.** (Centred NGR TQ 460 003). (Site Code: TM15. Site Director Luke Barber). The 2015 season will start in May. Volunteers always welcome (SAS).

Brighton: Hordean Traveller site, Patcham, East Sussex. (NGR 530561 109516). (Site Code HAO 14. Director Tom Munnery). Four evaluation trenches measuring 30m x 1.8m found

nothing of archaeological significance. Made ground was prevalent on site and archaeological deposits would not be impacted by the development works (ASE).

Brighton: 1 Manor Road. (NGR 533195 103848). (Site code: MRO 14. Director Philippa Stephenson). An intermittent watching brief with, to date, no finds of archaeological significance. Fieldwork ongoing (ASE).

Broad Oak: Pottens Mill Barn, Pottens Mill Lane. (NGR TQ 61337 24207). (Site code: PMI 14. Director Seth Price). An English Heritage Level 3 survey at the Grade II listed Pottens Mill Barn established it was a typical example of an altered late 16th/early 17th-century timber framed barn (ASE).

Burwash: Bateman's. (NGR 567040 123880). (Site code: BAT 07. Director Dylan Hopkinson). Nothing of archaeological significance was uncovered during the installation of a new oil pipeline. Fieldwork is now complete (ASE).

Chailey Green: St. Peter's Church. (NGR 539224 119337). (Site code: SPC 12. Director Kathryn Grant). An intermittent watching brief at St. Peter's Church during alteration works to the building and associated external groundwork was undertaken. Nothing of archaeological significance has been uncovered. Natural Tunbridge Wells Sand geology was encountered approximately 0.6m below current ground level and was found to be largely undisturbed. This was sealed by sterile cemetery soil and topsoil/turf (ASE).

Ditchling: Ditchling Beacon Car Park. (NGR TQ 33338 12980). (Site code: DBD 13. Director Suzanne Westall). Two archaeological features, interpreted as a pit and ditch were revealed to the east of the car park, where the level of the ridgeway footpath was reduced. No finds or datable materials were recovered from the features, but the proximity to an Iron Age site, and general expectation for this area, might suggest that they are prehistoric, nevertheless without datable evidence it is not possible to confirm this (ASE).

Eastbourne: Pocock's Field, Kings Drive. (NGR TQ 6025 0050). (Site code: PFE 14. Director Giles Dawkes). The seven month excavation on site has now concluded. It has demonstrated a near continuous settlement of the marsh-side from the Bronze Age to the Tudor period. Discoveries included Iron Age settlement and cemetery, Roman buildings and inhumations, evidence of Saxon settlement, timber-framed medieval buildings and a Tudor hall. Post excavation work is on-going (ASE).

Eastbourne: Eastbourne College, Old Wish Road. (NGR 560998 098393). (Site code EBC 14. Director Hannah Green). A historic building survey was undertaken at the site. The college has its origins in a school, which was established on a nearby site in Spencer Road in 1876. The development site itself comprises an assortment of buildings with varying construction dates ranging from 1927 through to the 21st century (ASE).

Eastbourne: Cavendish School, Eldon Road. (TQ 5948 0037). (Site code: CSE 14/111. Director Sean Wallis). No archaeological features were recorded during an evaluation in advance of a new primary school. The area had clearly been terraced in the past to create playing fields and, as a result, the depth of the trenches varied from about 0.20m to over 2.50m. Despite the landscaping which had taken place when the existing school was built, buried soil horizons were recorded in a number of trenches. However, the sterile nature of the soil was rather unusual, as no archaeological finds of any date were recorded (TVAS).

Fairwarp: Arnolds, Nursery Lane. (NGR 547220 126364). (Site code: FAR 14 Director Philippa Stephenson). Three 30m trenches were distributed across the site and some 13th- to 14th-century material, probably the result of medieval agriculture, was recorded in one trench (ASE).

Hartfield: The Haywaggon Public House, High Street. (NGR 547808 135694). (Director Katya Harrow). An historic building assessment of The Haywaggon Public House, Hartfield concluded that the Haywaggon Inn is a good example of a vernacular timber-framed dwelling encompassing several phases of construction and modification from the 16th to the 19th century (ASE).

Hailsham: Oaklands Way. (TQ 5840 0847). (Site code: HSH 14/109. Director Felicity Thompson). Several archaeological features dating from the medieval and post-medieval period were recorded during an evaluation in advance of a new school. Whilst most of the post-medieval features appear to be field boundaries (some of which are depicted on historic maps), the medieval features may represent part of a small farmstead complex (TVAS).

Herstmonceux: Land at Hailsham Road. (NGR 563077 112210). (Director Catherine Douglas). The most obvious possible archaeological features within the 1.9 hectare site were a series of positive anomalies representative of discrete features such as pits and ditches, including a series of possible east-west aligned linear features, which do not appear on available historic mapping of the site and may relate to earlier boundary ditches. However, some of these anomalies may also relate to in filled natural features (ASE).

Hove: Land at Benfield Golf Course. (NGR TQ 05188 39054). (Director John Cook). Evidence of archaeological features within the magnetic survey was, in general, sparse across the 1.7 hectare site. However, the survey did successfully detect a small number of linear and discrete anomalies across the site. Areas of magnetic disturbance may mask underlying features with a weaker magnetic signature (ASE).

Isfield: Isfield Camp. (TQ 4510 1700). (Site code: ICES 10/08. Director Felicity Thompson). A number of features relating to the former WW2 army camp were recorded during an evaluation in advance of housing. The most exciting find was a dummy anti-tank mine (TVAS).

Lewes: 49B Cliffe High Street. (NGR 542035 110213). (Director Katya Harrow). An historic buildings survey was carried out at the site. 49B Cliffe High Street provides an example of an early/mid-19th century outbuilding, which has been modified and extended during the early and mid-20th century. The building is thought to have functioned as a bakehouse at one stage; however, evidence for this former function is now either lost or masked by later alterations (ASE).

Lewes: 65-66 Priory Street. (TQ 41499 09723: Lewes District). (Site code: PSN 14. Director Lisa Fisher). On November 24th and 25th 2014 an intermittent archaeological watching brief was undertaken during ground works for the construction of a rear extension. The archaeological watching brief inspected and recorded three footings trenches. The west footing was the most interesting and contained half of a well in the middle of the trench. This was built using two different materials, chalk and brick and they were both bonded with the same mortar which matches that of the house. This feature probably dates to the 19th century when the house was built and would have been shared with the property next door, as it lay on the boundary between the two buildings. The trenches were excavated to a depth of approximately 1550mm down through to the natural geology with no other features or finds of any great age found, except for a small late 19th-century rubbish pit which lay on the edge of the trench boundary to the north (ASL).

Newhaven: Newhaven Fire Station, Meeching Road. (NGR 544464 101304). (Site code: NFS 14. Director Simon Stevens). Following on from previous evaluation, the watching brief has now been completed with no significant new finds (ASE).

Newhaven: 4 Kings Avenue, Denton. (NGR: 545520 102400). (Site code: KAN 15 Director Philippa Stephenson). Two trenches were excavated across a roughly square single building plot sloping south-east - north-west: a 10m trench across the building plot and a 6m trench in the site of a proposed soak-away. Natural chalk substrate was attained directly below a thin topsoil layer at an altitude varying between 28.03m and 24.72m aOD. No archaeological features were identified (ASE).

Newhaven: Frosts Garage. (NGR 545578 101964). (Site code: NFG 14. Director Catherine Douglas). Two evaluation trenches were excavated, each measuring 20m by 1.80m. The chalk geology was identified in the north-north-east part of the site at a level ranging from 2.73–3.09m AOD. This was overlain by a silty head deposit, in turn sealed by a layer of colluvium. The north end of a wall was encountered in the north facing section of Trench 1. This may have been associated with Denton Barn, which is shown just to the southeast of the site on the 1874-1878 map of Sussex, or it may relate to the former Blue Star garage which was in operation in the 1950's and 60's (ASE).

Newhaven: The Bridge Public House, Bridge Street. (NGR 544564 101482). (Director Katya Harrow). An historic building survey was carried out in order to assess the building's origins, historic development and significance. The Bridge Inn provides an example of a public house known to date back to at least the 18th century, although in its present form it is a product of several phases of modifications. While anecdotal evidence exists for a building on the site since the early 17th century, the earliest *visible* fabric appears to date to the 18th century (ASE).

Newhaven: Newhaven School. (TQ 4401 0056). (Site code: NSN 14/110. Director Sean Wallis). No archaeological features were recorded during an evaluation in advance of a new primary school. The northern part of the site had clearly been heavily truncated in the past by the school buildings which previously occupied the site. However, the southern part of the site appeared to be relatively undisturbed (TVAS).

Ninfield: Land at Bexhill Road. (NGR 570955 112130). (Director John Cook). The geophysical survey area covered approximately 3.2 hectares of pasture. Evidence of potential archaeological features was successfully detected throughout the magnetic survey. The most obvious possible features were represented by a series of positive anomalies representative of linear features such as ditches indicating a possible enclosure/s in the south of the site. However, some of these anomalies may also relate to in filled natural features. Other anomalies identified correspond to features seen in historical mapping (ASE).

***Ovingdean: Hog Croft, Ovingdean Manor.** (TQ 354036: Ovingdean Parish). (Site code: 500209. Director John Skelton). An evaluation excavation of a 13th- century manorial complex consisting of stone manor house and timber structures all bounded by earth banks was started in April 2014 with an aim of furthering our understanding of its extent and significance and to inform future management and protection of the site. This excavation was concluded on 16 December 2014. Seven evaluation trenches revealed three ditches and more than 35 post holes as well as coarse, flint cobbled surfaces, stake holes and shallow cut features. The structure of the surrounding earthworks was explored and it was found to cover a buried soil containing mid to late Saxon pottery and bone artifacts. This raises the possibility that some of the features

revealed within the complex are of Saxon origin and these features may continue into the landscape surrounding the earthworks. Application is being made to continue in 2015 with a small area excavation to explore this possibility and to further our understanding of the structure of the earthworks. The start of the excavations is anticipated to be early April 2015 continuing for approximately six months with the Society digging on Wednesdays and Saturdays (BHAS).

Ovingdean: Hog Croft, Ovingdean Manor. (NGR centred TQ 355 036). Magnetometry and radar revealed a barn-like building and possible dovecote against the north-west bank of the medieval enclosure. A trackway runs SW-NE through the site through an entrance in the south west bank. Revetting against the outside of the north-west enclosure bank also revealed breaks that suggest a further enclosure to the north-west of the main one (BHAS, David Staveley).

Peacehaven: Piddinghoe Sports Park. (TQ 4124 0968). (Site code: PSP 12/138. Director Sean Wallis). An ongoing watching brief in advance of various improvements at the sports park and the area to the north has not revealed any archaeological features so far (TVAS).

Ripe: Eckington House, Deanland Road. (NGR 551100 110140). (Site code: HER 13. Director Ian Hogg). The work comprised the monitoring of the foundation trenches associated with new extensions and a new porch to the property. Natural Lower Greensand deposits were recorded in all areas, in the south-west of the site the natural was overlain by topsoil. Elsewhere horizontal truncation associated with the previous extension and the current driveway had removed any previous overburden. A modern construction cut associated with the previous extension was recorded (ASE).

Roman Road Project: Margary's Track 141. Margarys Track 141 runs north from Newhaven through Ripe/Chalvington to inexplicably come to a stop opposite the modern junction of Nash Street on the A22, Lower Dicker. In this abrupt stop it is thought that 141 would probably extend north into the Higher Weald, the reasoning for this being a historical need to link the Romano-British grain producing area of the Lower Weald with the iron production area of the High Weald in the necessity of supplying the workforce. IHRG have an ongoing project to examine the possibility of a northbound route by means of cartographic study, field walking, metal detecting and geophysical survey. Whilst there are no apparent physical features to give indication of a route further north it is apparent that Track 141 is fairly straight in Margary's recognised path. The methodology used is to extend the alignment of the track in a corridor northwards whilst examining the landscape to see if that alignment would need to alter (as is often the case in ancient tracks) in the undulating terrain of the High Weald. This project commenced summer 2014 and is considered to be a long term project in the need to obtain access to land within the corridor and over a considerable distance. At the present moment the project extends almost seven miles from Lower Dicker to Chapel Cross, Heathfield and there is already tentative evidence from the corridor that this route may well exist (IHRG).

Rye: No. 32a The Mint. (NGR 591929 120367). (Site code: TMR 14. Director Simon Stevens). An archaeological watching brief was maintained during groundworks for an extension and the post excavation work is not yet complete. No significant archaeological features were identified during the work but a quantity of late post-medieval finds was recovered from overburden deposits (ASE).

Seaford: Sutton Garages, Alfriston Road. (NGR 549282 099674). (Site code: ARS14. Director Greg Priestley Bell). Four trenches totalling 50m in length were targeted on former buildings associated with probable C18th or earlier farmhouse and ancillary buildings. Final phase of fieldwork due in February 2015. Results so far include structural remains (walls and cobbled

surfaces) as well as a probable medieval ditch containing copper alloy tweezers and pottery (ASE).

Seaford: 6 Steyne road, Seaford. (NGR 548225 098830). (Site Code: STY 14. Director Kristina Krawiec). Limited trial trenching and assessment of borehole logs demonstrated that in most locations the landfill-derived made ground directly overlay coarse sand and gravels. In only one location were intact alluvial deposits recorded. On the basis of this survey it would appear that the site is situated along the edge of the former channel of the Ouse and has not been subject to extensive vertical sediment accumulation. It is not clear if this is the result of natural processes or if material has been removed from the site during the recent past as part of land reclamation. The site also demonstrated a degree of hydrocarbon contamination as a result of the petrol tanks present at the site (ASE).

Seaford: Findon Close. (TV 5029 9910). (Site code: FCS 14/204. Director Sean Wallis). No archaeological features were recorded during a watching brief in advance of a new garage. The site was located within the area formerly occupied by Seaford Camp (South Camp), which dates from the First World War. The site did not appear to be truncated to any great extent, although the very sterile nature of the topsoil recorded in the rear garden suggests that the area may have been landscaped in the past, with fresh garden soil imported when the bungalow was built (TVAS).

Seaford: Dymock Farm. (TV 550944 099911). (Site code: STA 14. Director Luke Barber). A trench was excavated across the Great War gas training trench that formed part of the Seaford training area with the aid of members of the Sussex Military History Society. The gas trench was located but had been stripped of any internal fittings or revetting. It would appear the feature may have begun as a general practice trench but had been modified (widened) to form the gas chamber (Luke Barber/Justin Russell: Seaford Training Area Project).

***Seaford: Seaford Head.** (TV 549931 098164). (Site code: STA 14. Director Luke Barber). It is hoped that a five day community excavation will be held during the last week of March. This will aim to sample Great War domestic refuse dumped in a chalk quarry situated near the southern boundary of the hutted camp (Luke Barber/Justin Russell: Seaford Training Area Project).

***Seven Sisters Community Archaeology Project.** (Director Tom Dommett). A new project has been awarded grant funding for community research work around the Seven Sisters. It will run from now until October 2016 and will include field survey and geophysical surveys at Gayles Farm and Belle Tout, excavations at Belle Tout as well as work on a barrow west of Birling Gap and the 19th century coastguard cottages (NT).

***Stanmer: Rocky Clump.** (TQ 328 101: Stanmer Parish). (Director John Skelton). The 2015 season of excavation at Rocky Clump has been postponed pending further development of our Ovingdean excavations (BHAS).

St Leonards-on-Sea: 5 Market Passage. (NGR TQ 80253 08923). (Site code: LMP 14. Director Catherine Douglas). Nineteen pile holes were monitored during their excavation using a piling augur fitted with a 300mm diameter drill. The Tunbridge Wells Sand Formation was encountered 0.20m below ground surface level, and appeared to be sloping from north to south. No archaeological finds or features were identified during the watching brief (ASE).

Uckfield: Bridge Cottage, High Street. (NGR 547240 120920). (Site code: UBS 11. Director Greg Priestley Bell). A watching brief was undertaken during the restoration of the building to include an extension to the side and ground floor extension to the rear and a ground source

heating system. Structural remains including a floor hearth and walls relating to an earlier building (pre-1436) were exposed. The post-excavation work has not yet been undertaken. Archaeomagnetic dating samples from the hearth are currently being process at Bradford University (ASE).

Waldron: Minepit Wood site 1. (NGR TQ 554760 116970: Heathfield and Waldron parish). Situated on the west bank of a tiny stream. Plentiful bloomery iron slag located in the stream - equivocal evidence for the site of a furnace on the bank at TQ 5473 1697. The slag is very black inside on breaking and with no obvious flow lines on the surface (WIRG).

Waldron: Minepit Wood site 2. (NGR TQ 554770 117000: Heathfield and Waldron parish). Situated on sloping ground at the confluence of two tiny streams. Bloomery iron slag in the ground was found by metal detector, samples collected at about 100 mm. Small fragments in tiny stream below. Slag is very black inside on breaking and with no obvious flow lines on the surface (WIRG).

Waldron: Minepit Wood site 3. (NGR TQ 554720 117020: Heathfield and Waldron parish). A bloomery iron slag scatter above and to the west of a tiny stream 55 metres upstream from Minepit Wood site 1 (WIRG).

Wartling: Champneys Farm, Jenners Lane. (TQ 66271 10584: Lewes District). (Site code: CHW14. Director Lisa Fisher). On 5/11/14 and 19/11/14 a watching brief monitored the ground reduction of an area approximately 21.0m x 21.0m in order to extend a pre-existing horse training manege. On the first day, the topsoil was removed to a depth of approximately 120mm across the whole trench. No features were revealed. On the second day, an area approximately 21.0m x 10.0m was reduced to create a flat base at which point excavations were complete, reaching the natural geology to the west side of the trench. Trench depth was a maximum of 800mm to the north of the site. The east side of the trench will be made up with the removed topsoil in order to create a flat area for the base of the manege. No features of any age or significance were excavated, except for three modern service trenches. Very few artefacts were recovered, with two residual and abraded medieval pottery sherds and a handful of early 20th- century pottery sherds (ASL).

***Wellingham, Nr. Barcombe Mills: Bridge Farm.** (NGR TQ 4294 1457. Ringmer Parish). (Site Code: BRF 14. Directors Rob Wallace & David Millum). No further field work since last report in Oct 2014. Full excavation report on 2013 season (BRF 13) now available on website, ESHER and Barbican library, as is an interpretive summary of Bridge Farm 2011 -2014. 2015 excavations will be from June 29th to August 8th. Volunteers welcome £25-50 fee. Camping available £50 per week. 4 week training course arranged for under grads at £440. New CAP site manual available shortly. Further information about the 2015 dig, training course and the overall project can be seen on www.culverproject.co.uk. (CAP).

Westdean: The School House, The Lane. (NGR: 552409 099578). (Site code: SWD 14. Director Steve Price). The archaeological work comprised the monitoring of two separate foundation trenches along the south-west and south-east sides of the building, associated with new extension works. The watching brief revealed no archaeological finds or features. Various modern made ground deposits associated with previous ground works were found to be overlying colluvial deposits in both trenches. The natural geology was not reached (ASE).

Withyham: Willetts Farm, Blackham. (NGR TQ 5069 3970 and TQ 5069 3956). (Site codes SMHS14 A1 & 2. Directors Stewart Angell & Peter Hibbs). Following the discovery, through

excavation, of sections relating to a demolished WW2 pillbox a magnetometer survey was undertaken, with the assistance of HAARG. The survey revealed the extent of further sections positioned in a ditch of unknown date. Excavation of these sections is now planned by SMHS. The location of a reported bomb crater was also surveyed. However, the results were inconclusive; despite local knowledge of where the bomb landed. A copy of the report highlighting both surveys has been forwarded to ESHER (SMHS: Sussex Military History Society).

West Sussex

Aldingbourne: Lidsey Landfill site, Phase 3. (centred SU 92009 04100). (Site Code LWS05/94, intended deposition at The Novium, Chichester, Acc. CHCDM:2008.15; Director: Sean Wallis). The report of the investigations on this site between 2005 and 2008 has been published as a monograph, *Thames Valley Archaeological Services: Occasional Paper No. 5: Bronze Age and Middle Iron Age Occupation and Roman Fields at Lidsey Landfill, Woodgate, West Sussex* (2014, by Sean Wallis and Steve Ford). Final interpretation and phasing of this site finds pit clusters of the Middle and Late Bronze Age, three mid Iron Age enclosures, alongside the Aldingbourne Rife coastal plain river, rare traces of Middle Iron Age field boundaries, and, on fresh alignments, a system of early Roman trackways and fields (TVAS reported by WSCC).

Angmering: Pound Nursery, Roundstone Lane. (NGR 535158 124294). (Site code: ARL14 Director Tom Munnery). Seventeen trenches were mechanically excavated and archaeological features were encountered and recorded in eleven of the trenches. A variety of features comprising ditches, pits and postholes were recorded. Pottery, dating from the Neolithic through to the second century AD, was recovered, along with flintwork relating to the Neolithic and Bronze Age and fragments of two later Bronze Age loom weights. A possibly Neolithic feature was recorded and there was clear evidence of later systematic land organisation in the survival of ditches probably dating to the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age. Pits and postholes, indicative of domestic activity were also recorded. A probable Early Roman ditch was also revealed. No features thought to be of medieval or post-medieval were recorded, however, several other ditches and pits remain entirely undated (ASE).

Angmering: Roundstone Lane. (NGR 507580 104010). (Site code: ARL 14. Director Tom Munnery). Mechanical excavation of an area measuring 10,573m² revealed a quantity of Neolithic pottery as well as evidence of Bronze Age and Iron Age domestic activity including a probable burnt mound. Post-excavation work is now beginning (ASE).

Barnham: Angels Nursery. (NGR 496200 104000). (Site code: BAN 14. Director Simon Stevens). The excavation site consisted of three discrete areas, located to investigate features identified during the evaluation. Post-excavation work is on-going but preliminary findings suggest that virtually all of features from the site can be dated to the Romano-British period, with few features of any other provable date (ASE).

Billingshurst: Land off Marringdean Road and south of Daux Wood. (TQ 08800 26427). A topographical survey, prior to other archaeological work, carried out on the surviving northern part of the former No. 46 (Kingsfold) Prisoner of War Camp site has identified the surviving foundations of most of the camp hutments. The Camp contained Italian and some German PoWs in 1943, the latter principally or only from 1944. The northern Camp hutments were sold off in 1946-48 and that part of the site reverted to woodland. W/c (ASE reported by WSCC).

Bognor Regis: Bersted, Land at Oldlands Farm. (NGR SU 942 017). (Site code: OFB 14. Director Andy Margetts). Completion of a strip, map and sample excavation of an area measuring approximately c. 3.5ha. Post-excavation work is in progress but discoveries included Bronze Age settlement and cremations, an Iron Age field system and a Roman enclosure (ASE).

Broadwater: St Mary's parish church. (NGR TQ 14656 04392). Excavation of trial pits within the churchyard, in connection with a proposed church extension, found no surviving traces of the foundations of the chapels known, before the 1820s, to have existed on the east side of the south transept. Traces of the possible foundations of an earlier alignment of the rear (southern) churchyard wall were noted, pre-dating 19th-century expansion of the churchyard. W/c (West Sussex Archaeology Ltd reported by WSCC).

Burgess Hill: Osborne House, Station Road. (NGR 530898 118784). (Site code: BHO 14 Director Suzanne Westall). The evaluation consisted of the excavation of four trenches, to reveal the underlying natural Weald Clay at a maximum height of 36.42m OD in the north-east of the site, falling away to 35.07m OD to the south. The evaluation revealed the structural remains of brick buildings illustrated on maps spanning the late 19th to late 20th centuries. The remains are associated with the industrial use of the site, first as a pottery, tile and brickworks in the 19th century and later – in the 20th century – as a printworks. In addition, a small pit was noted towards the centre of the site but could not be investigated in any detail due to the presence of petrochemical contamination in this area of the site (ASE).

Chichester: Graylingwell Hospital, Phase 4. (NGR 486660 106550). (Site Code: GRA 08 Director Ian Hogg) The archaeological work comprised the machine excavation of nine trenches. Natural gravel Head deposits were encountered between 30.10m and 30.94m AOD. The natural was overlain by a relatively recently deposited topsoil across the south and west of the site. A subsoil horizon was present in the north-east of the site and was overlain by buried topsoil and another modern topsoil. Archaeological features observed consisted of a series of rectangular planting pits, probably for an orchard; these were distributed across the site and were of later post-medieval date. A segmented hedgeline was recorded in the west of the site as well as two undated pits. These features are also considered to be of later post-medieval date in view of the similarity of their fills to other, dated features (ASE).

Crawley: Ifield Mill Pond. (NGR TQ 2450 3640). (Site code: IPC 14. Director Andy Margetts). Ongoing work has uncovered good early post-medieval industrial archaeology (iron furnace and flour mill). Archaeomagnetic dating is being undertaken on the furnace (ASE).

Crawley: 5-7 Brighton Road. (NGR TQ 26738 36316). Trial trench excavation on the site of the former 1930s Imperial Cinema revealed cut features containing medieval pottery and iron working slag, close to the London Road frontage. London Road continues northwards to become the High Street, and this site, south of the railway, provides the southernmost medieval site so far within the medieval town. W/c (TVAS reported by WSCC).

East Wittering: Land at Sandpipers Walk. (NGR: 479830 097625). (Site code: SWW 14 Director Hayley Nicholls). Sixteen evaluation trenches and a small mitigation area were excavated, and a localised watching brief was undertaken. A small quantity of residual worked flint attests to transient Mesolithic/Neolithic activity in the area. Two more permanent phases of archaeology were identified: A probable Middle or Late Iron Age field system and driveway(s) on a broadly north-easterly alignment and a probable medieval or post-medieval field system on a broadly east-west/north-south orientation (ASE).

Horsham: Horsham Bowling Club and land adjoining, Bishopric. (NGR TQ 16769 30646). Trial trench investigation of this site, adjoining the River Arun and to the rear of the medieval Bishopric "suburb" of the medieval borough of Horsham, has now been completed. No ancient features, if once present, appear to have survived extensive modern land forming excavations and land raising (Archaeological Solutions reported by WSCC).

Horsham (north): Chennell's Brook motte-and-bailey castle, Rusper Road/ Lemmington Way. (NGR centred TQ 08807 33267). A watching brief was carried out in June 2014 as part of a Higher Level Stewardship scheme, during construction of two new bridges adjacent to the motte and bailey castle earthworks. No archaeological features were revealed, although this lack of evidence suggests that the previous identification by Hugh Braun (1935) of the earthworks of a dammed pool, on the south side of the motte, may be incorrect (West Sussex Archaeology Ltd reported by WSCC).

Hurstpierpoint: Land south of Chalker's Lane. (NGR TQ 28262 17557). Geophysical survey has shown a possible ancient small sub-triangular/ sub-circular enclosure, and probable linear post-medieval field boundaries (Cranfield University reported by WSCC).

Littlehampton: Courtwick Lane. (TQ 0180 0360). (Site code CLL 10/85. Director Sean Wallis). An ongoing watching brief is being carried out in advance of a new housing development. Not much has been found recently (TVAS).

Petworth: Petworth House. In mid-December 2014, the society supported Tom Dommett of the National Trust in a magnetometry survey. Providing a team and kit to supplement his own and Trust volunteers, the team covered the grounds previously occupied by the 6th Duke of Somerset's stables. This location was subject to a previous resistivity survey (CDAS).

Poling: The Vinery, south side of the A27. (NGR TQ 05090 05504). Neolithic flintwork, a burnt mound, gullies and post-holes, and a Late Iron Age ditch have been recorded during a watching brief (CBAS reported by WSCC).

***Secrets of the High Woods Project Update.** Volunteers have recently finished a program of fieldwork at Stansted Park, within the south-west portion of the SHW project area. The park comprises an area of managed historic woodland located around Stansted House. Work has so far concentrated in the north-west of the woodland, in an area likely to have fallen within the Medieval Great Park. A range of features of archaeological interest have been identified, ranging from lynchets of probable prehistoric origin, to later features associated with the management and formal landscaping of the estate. Some evidence of probable 20th century military activity has also been observed, which could provide an interesting subject of research for further documentary research by project volunteers. The focus of fieldwork for January shifted to the Queen Elizabeth Country Park, where fieldwork and field training are proceeding apace. During February and March project volunteers will be conducting fieldwork within the Slindon Estate (Eartham Woods), Norfolk Estate (Gobblestubs Copse) and the Kingley Vale Nature Reserve/ Inholmes Wood (Alice Thorne/South Downs National Park).

Selsey: Medmerry Beach. In late October 2014 our coastal monitoring team, established in response to the impact of erosion to sites around our coastline, were involved in the retrieval of a fish trap. This was reported by a member of the public at Medmerry beach, west of the Environment Agency managed beach re-alignment. The object is currently with Archaeology South East for radiocarbon dating. CDAS were accompanied on this trip by a PhD student, whom is working on recording fish traps in antiquity for his thesis. A second trap/basket, also reported by a member of the public, this time to the east of the Medmerry gap and examined in November 2014 by CDAS, is suspected of being much later in date (located in higher beach deposits and in better condition), but one specific to Selsey for catching prawns. Our team also undertook some preliminary augering to assess the sediments through and beneath burnt flint mounds at the same location (CDAS).

Slinfold: Triangle Field, Alfoldean Roman station (NGR 511407 132317: Slinfold Parish). (Project co-ordinator's Vicky Lillywhite/David Staveley). A Magnetometer survey was carried out by David Staveley on behalf of HDAG of a field on the Dedisham estate at Alfoldean known as Triangle Field. There was only time on this occasion to survey a single strip, 20 metres wide, that ran closest to the roadside (Stane Street). The results showed a selection of ditches and regular narrow linear plots adjacent to Stane Street but slightly offset from the line of the road. These results suggest the furthest indication of habitation south along Stane Street from the known mansio site than had previously been established. (David Staveley/HDAG).

Slinfold: Western Field (B), Alfoldean (NGR 511601 132699. Slinfold Parish). (Site code ALF 14. Project Co-ordinators Mick and Kellie Mills). An excavation, 4 metres x 2 metres in size, was conducted across a set of linear features identified from a geophysics survey. A considerable amount of Wiggonholt (1st -4th century AD) pottery sherds were found at half a metres depth within a possible pit/dump feature including jar/flagon handles and necks. In addition at least four different pottery types of mortaria were located in the same general area suggesting the possibility of food preparation or serving. At the end of the excavation a regular brick/tile feature with a right angled corner became apparent in the north west corner of the trench and a further excavation is planned for Spring 2015 to re-open the trench and excavate further (HDAG).

Worthing: New Worthing School. (TQ 1458 0407). (Site code: WSW 14/176. Director Felicity Thompson). Following on from a recent evaluation which yielded an early Neolithic pit, a programme of archaeological work is currently ongoing on the site. This work will involve the stripping of various parts of the site (TVAS).

Worthing: Lower Northbrook Farm, Durrington. (TQ 1060 0410). (Site code: LNF 12/182. Director Sean Wallis). An excavation at Lower Northbrook Farm has recorded numerous walls and surfaces associated with Northbrook Mansion (demolished in 1850), and Lower Northbrook Farm (which succeeded it before being demolished in the second half of the 20th century). Probable features dating from the prehistoric and Roman period have also been recorded (TVAS).

Worthing: 12 Littlehampton Road. (TQ 1327 0469). (Site code: LRW 14/183. Director Felicity Thompson). An area to the rear of a commercial property was stripped under archaeological supervision. A number of Roman features, including pits and ditches, were recorded, along with a large area of modern truncation. The site lies immediately south of another site, where a small Roman cremation cemetery was recorded recently (TVAS).

NB. Nothing to report from:

HAARG

SIAS

Philippa Whitehill/CG Archaeology

NT

NB: No fieldwork reports for this period received from:

Chris Butler Archaeological Services

Cuckmere Archaeological Group

Development Archaeological Services

Eastbourne Museum Service

East Sussex County Council

West Sussex Archaeology

Winchelsea Archaeological Society
Worthing Archaeological Society