

SUSSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL ROUND-UP (11th June – 10th October 2016)

* volunteer opportunities

East Sussex

Battle: Battle Abbey School, High Street (NGR 574924 515696). (Site Code: BAS 16. Director: Simon Stevens). A test-pit measuring c.1.9m by 1.2m by a maximum of 780mm deep was mechanically excavated to find the source of a water leak. No archaeological deposits or features were disturbed during the repair to the leaking water service as all excavations were contained within the backfill of the previously excavated service trench. No archaeological finds were uncovered (ASE).

Battle: 43 High Street (TQ 74695 16081. Rother District Council). (Site code: BHS 16. Director: Lisa Fisher). Over four days in May and June 2016, ASL conducted a watching brief on land to the rear of 43 High Street. A series of cut features were excavated, including pits and post holes as well as an L-shaped brick built feature. A complete pig skeleton was excavated next to a flat metal surface, which may represent a back yard piggery. Artefacts were common with a wide range of dates providing a mixed picture of activity from the 13th century to the present day. It is clear that animal disturbance had mixed up the artefacts and later 19th- century intrusion included the digging of small pits. Three larger postholes are likely to have formed a shelter over the brick feature which may have been a feeding trough (ASL).

Beckley: Coach House (TQ 86097 24165). (Site Code: CHB 16. Site Director: Chris Butler). A watching brief during building of new garage. A midden feature extended from the east foundation trench through the centre of the site and into the west foundation trench. It contained abundant pottery and CBM, glass, bone and metal of probable 18th- to 19th- century date. A cut feature was recorded in the south foundation trench. It contained an assemblage of pottery and CBM, of similar date. This cut feature was truncated by another cut feature, possibly a post-hole. A foundation wall was also recorded surviving to a depth of four courses. Bricks appeared to be of 19th- century date. The Hovel, attached to the Coach House, was also inspected during the watching brief, as internal works had taken place here subsequent to the building survey of the Coach House (CBAS).

Bexhill: Hanover Close (NGR 574317 108200). (Site Code: HNC 16. Director: John Hirst). A single archaeological evaluation trench was excavated, measuring 10m x 1.50m. No archaeological features or deposits were identified (ASE).

Bexhill: Land on the North East Bexhill Gateway Road (BX2 Site) (NGR TQ 574948 109492. Bexhill parish). (Site Code: BX2. Director: Rose Calis/Iride Tomazic). A strip, map and sample excavation in advance of clay extraction. This project has finished, although further work will be required on parts of the site not yet impacted by the clay extraction. An Early Bronze Age ring ditch was found, which has been re-modelled, with no central burial, together with parts of a field system which seems to have respected it. Residual Mesolithic and later flintwork was found across the site, and there was some evidence for a late 18th- to 19th- military encampment (CBAS).

Bexhill: North Bexhill Access Road. (Site Code: NBA 16. Director: Iride Tomazic). Mitigation work on the Phase 1 part of the route is now coming to an end. Mixture of targeted watching brief and strip, map and sample excavation. Extensive evidence of Late Bronze Age activity in the form of ditches, pits and post holes were found on the upper slope to the north of Combe Haven. Adjacent to this a rectangular enclosure has been found and is currently being investigated. It has placed deposits of pottery (East Sussex Ware) and a complete glass vessel in its ditch, indicating a site of potential ritual significance of Late Iron Age or early Romano-British date (CBAS).

***Bishopstone Tidemills** (Centred NGR TQ 460 003). (Site Code: TM 16. Site Director: Luke Barber). The very large heated glasshouse is proving to be extremely complex in both its heating system and its chronological development (of both the heating system and actual glasshouse structure). There have been a number of glimpses of earlier, presumably 18th- century structures and reclamation deposits below the glasshouse complex but too little is exposed to make much sense of them. Volunteers always welcome (SAS).

Bodiam: Bodiam Castle (NGR 578356 125378). (Site Code: BOD 16. Director: Odile Rouard). Two trenches, each 7m in length were excavated. A small wall footing was uncovered at approximately 1.1m below existing ground level, sealed by a number of layers of made ground (ASE).

Bodiam: Quarry Farm (NGR TQ 776247). (Director: Kevin Cornwell). Auger investigations have been conducted on behalf of the High Weald AONB at the site of a proposed pond next to the River Rother. Five holes identified the top soil was to a depth of c.0.50m followed by sub-soil to c.1.25m. At this depth we identified peat to at least 4.25m. No archaeological finds (HAARG).

Bodle Street Green: The Mill (TQ 65026 14623: Wealden District Council). (Site code: TMB 15. Director: Lisa Fisher). In September 2015 ASL were commissioned to conduct an Historic Building Record at The Mill in Bodle Street. Although called 'The Mill', the Site is likely to have been two simple agricultural buildings. Two such historic buildings are recorded on 19th- century maps, one on the footprint of the recently demolished building, the other was demolished some time ago. A watching brief followed in June 2016 and it was hoped that the ground works would reveal older archaeological features but it became clear that the area had been previously stripped down to natural clay to create a flat platform to build the buildings on. No artefacts older than late 18th/early 19th century were recovered and only contemporary features relating to the building were recorded (ASL).

Brede: Chitcombe Farm (NGR TQ 813211). (Site Code: CH 16. Directors: Kevin and Lynn Cornwell). A two week excavation in the summer and three days in October have located the remains of a 'Romano-British masonry building' and beam slots from an adjacent building – probably timber framed on the same alignment. A contemporary trackway running east-west across the site which follows the land contours above the slag banks and a well preserved bloomery base within a rectangular enclosure were investigated. The enclosure looks to contain four bloomeries in reference to the magnetometer results. Ethan Greenwood, HAARG, WIRG and Exeter Uni. Phd student excavated four trenches as part of his Phd studies looking at the slag deposits (HAARG).

Brighton: The Royal Pavilion. BHAS conducted a small excavation in the grounds of the Royal Pavilion in July as part of the Festival of Archaeology. The BHAS team was led by Lisa Fisher and revealed a large quantity of clay pigeon shooting discs? Most of these were in small pieces, but with ledgings. Other finds included Victorian ceramics. A geophysical survey to the north of the building revealed a number of linear anomalies. BHAS are hoping to return to conduct more geophysics this autumn. The BHAS outreach team were also at a number of venues inside Brighton Museum showing many aspects of our post excavations work and the handling collection (BHAS).

Burwash: Land at Shrub Lane (NGR 567950 125484). (Site Code: SLB 16. Director: John Cook). Magnetometry survey revealed evidence for possible archaeological features represented by moderate positive and negative anomalies. The northernmost of these features indicates a possible bank and ditch with a sharp turn but otherwise following the contours of the slope and overlooking the valley. In the south of the site broad anomalies suggest a feature such as a Holloway. Neither of these features appear on the 1839 tithe map, where the enclosure is shown as being cultivated for hops, nor do they appear on later Ordnance Survey mapping. Possible cut features such as pits are indicated across the site. A small number of dipolar anomalies may relate to heat related activity such as kilns, ovens or furnaces. However, these are more likely to relate to near surface ferrous objects (ASE).

Eastbourne: Seaside Recreational Ground, Eastbourne (NGR: 562014 99857). (Site Code: SRG 16. Director: Kris Krawiec). Ongoing work for Southern Water on the Willingdon Peat Formation that will be updated next time (ASE).

Eastbourne: 2-4 Mill Gap Road (TV 60506 99600). (Site code: MBR16. Site Director: Jon Baczkowski). Evaluation excavation. Four small trenches in restricted locations recorded no archaeological features. Finds were restricted to one humanly-struck flint and a small fragment of fire-cracked flint recovered from the subsoil in Trench 2. The evaluation established that much of the Site has been disturbed by service trenches and building works. A building survey has also been carried out on the existing building (CBAS).

East Dean: Belle Tout (TV 550 960: East Dean and Friston parish). (Directors: Chris Greatorex and Greg Chuter). A community excavation was undertaken investigating the outer earthwork and the dry valley within the monument where Beaker activity has previously been identified. OSL samples were taken from the outer and inner earthworks. Awaiting final report (NT).

Falmer: 47 Middle Street (TQ 3536 0892). (Site Director: Sean Wallis / Danielle Milbank. Site Code: MSF 16/93). No archaeological finds or features were recorded during a watching brief. It appears that the site had been terraced. A building recording was carried out prior to the watching brief, which established that the property probably dates to the early 19th century (TVAS).

Firle: The Barn, Place Farm (Burning Sky Brewery), The Street (TQ: 47017 07105: South Downs National Park Authority). (Site code: BBB16. Director: Lisa Fisher). In June 2016 ASL were commissioned to carry out an Historic Building Record for the property managers of Firle Estate, to mitigate a planning condition attached to planning consent for a scheme of renovations and alterations within the barn at Place Farm. The survey was carried out to Historic England Level 3 standards. The first phase of the building can be dated to the late 17th to early 18th century [Period A]. The second phase is problematic to date this but it would be reasonable to suggest this was mid 18th century [Period B]. In the early to mid 19th century [Period C], the building was re-modelled and during the 20th century [Period D], various alterations and additions were made (ASL).

Forest Row: Wall Hill Farmhouse, London Road (TQ 42548 35648: Wealden District Council). (Site code: WHF 15. Director: Lisa Fisher). In October 2015 ASL was commissioned to conduct a Historic Building Survey at Wall Hill Farm, Forest Row. The earliest phase of the building can be dated to the 15th century [Period A] which presents itself as a north-south range although there is a degree of uncertainty, due to later works removing some of the crucial historical fabric. A later east-west range [Period B] was added in the middle of the 16th century, with later significant renovations such as the insertion of chimney stacks, replacement of the roof and removal of the structural posts occurring in the 17th century [Period C]. Modern additions include the creation of a northern outshot with two chimney additions, a later two storey extension and dormer room in the roof. A watching brief followed during February and April 2016 to monitor the footings for a new garden room and garage, as well other groundworks. Three undated postholes were recorded in Trench 1 and the house foundation was recorded in Trench 4. A small assemblage of artefacts was recovered which suggests some occupation on the Site from the Medieval period to present day (ASL).

Framfield: Land at Great Meade, Pump Lane (NGR 550502 119660). (Site Code: GMF 16. Director: Gary Webster). Four trenches were excavated revealing two ditches dating from the middle to late medieval period, possibly forming part of a coaxial field system. In a small area of the site there is evidence of late medieval building, however there were no *in-situ* remains. The remains of a moat backfilled in the 20th century were seen in two of the trenches. There appears to have been a deliberate clearing event, likely to be contemporary with the backfilling of the moat, which has created layers of medieval demolition and disturbed the overburden across much of the site (ASE).

Hadlow Down: St Marks Church (TQ 52980 24184). (Site code: SMH16. Site Director: Sarah Vine). Watching brief on drainage run and a pit for a new pumping station were excavated in the

churchyard on the east side of the church. A deposit of topsoil directly overlay the natural sand. At the western end of the drainage trench the brick footings of a possible former extension were exposed. A deposit of brick rubble was also found at the western end of the trench. This deposit and the brick footings are likely to be of late 19th- to early 20th- century date. No other archaeological features or deposits were encountered (CBAS).

Hailsham: Ersham Farm (NGR TQ 5877 0843: Hailsham parish). (Site Code: AS1797. Director: Vincent Monahan). An archaeological strip map and sample excavation in advance of a major housing development has recorded a Roman settlement, including evidence of pottery production and field system, overlain by a medieval settlement (Archaeological Solutions reported by ESCC).

Hailsham: Grain Cottage (TQ 57471 10180). (Site code: GCH16. Site Director: Chris Butler). Watching brief: The only deposits present on-site was a modern topsoil, a thin modern demolition deposit derived from the demolition of the barn and removal of the hard standing, and the underlying natural. A 20th- century slurry pit and a number of ceramic drains were noted. A modern filled-in cut for a post of the demolished barn was noted in one section. The site appeared to have been previously landscaped to the natural when the 20th barn was erected (CBAS).

Hastings: Country Park (NGR TQ 851114). (Site Code: HCP. Director: Kevin Cornwell). Magnetometer surveys are continuing. Settlement and field systems have been identified at a number of sites and field walking has recovered prehistoric worked flint (HAARG).

Heathfield: Pook Reed, Pook Reed Lane (NGR 557501 120748). (Site Code: POK 16. Director: Lucy May). No archaeological finds, deposits or features were encountered during the watching brief. The stratigraphy for site consisted of apparently untruncated topsoil, subsoil and natural (ASE).

Hellingly: Potters Pantry (TQ56748 11235). (Site code: POT 16. Site Director: various). Watching brief. Large brick built cistern with pipe to brick built soakaway in SE corner of site. Remains of brick built building shown on early OS maps in SW part of site. Cut feature with later 19th- century artefacts in car park cut by service trench. Also monitored internal works to add to existing building survey report (CBAS).

Lewes: Swanborough Lakes (TQ 40658 08070). (Site code SWL 16. Site Director: Dr Caroline Russell). Evaluation and auger survey. Excavation of four trenches uncovered no archaeological features and almost no finds. Trenches 1, 2 and 4 contained topsoil, overlying colluvium (hillwash). Buried soil was recorded in each of these three trenches, between a lower layer of colluvium and an upper layer of colluvium. The auger survey recorded two layers of peat. The main peat layer was recorded at a depth of 2.35m to 3.20m Below Ground Surface (BGS) and was typically 0.45m to 0.85m thick. Its extent was recorded in all directions except towards the floodplain. A second shallower and intermittent layer of peat was recorded at a depth of 1.70-1.85m and 1.65-1.70m BGS (CBAS).

Maresfield: Land South of Bloomery Way (NGR 546370 123742). (Site Code: MPF 16. Director: Lucy May). The evaluation revealed several ditches, ditch termini and pits. All but one of the features are undated. Finds were recovered from one shallow pit and included Roman pottery and a residual prehistoric flint (ASE).

Newhaven: Newhaven Port, East Quay (NGR 545165 100495). (Site Code: NRO 16. Director: Greg Priestley-Bell). Geotechnical test pits and various borehole starter pits, measuring up to 12m x 1.5m revealed structures and deposits related to the 19th-century railyard and late 19th-century construction of the harbour's eastern wall. Supporting walls and dump deposits relating to the 20th-century construction of platforms and the general raising of the area were also revealed. No pre-19th- century archaeological remains were uncovered. A single borehole was drilled to bedrock (BH03, -28.52m OD) and alternate 0.45m sleeved samples were retained for geoarchaeological recording. The

sediments recovered, whilst not a continuous sequence, have the potential to preserve palaeoenvironmental remains (ASE).

Newick: Land at Newick Hill (NGR: 541623 121686). (Site Code: NEW 16. Director: Simon Stevens). An archaeological evaluation was carried out on land at Newick Hill. Eight trenches were recorded, no archaeological deposits or features were encountered. A limited mainly modern artefactual assemblage was recovered from the topsoil. The evaluation suggests that no significant archaeological deposits exist at the site (ASE).

***Ovingdean: Hog Croft** (TQ 354 036: Ovingdean Parish). (Site code: 500209. Director: John Skelton). Excavation of a 13th-century manorial complex consisting of stone manor house and timber structures bounded by earthwork banks. The excavation is currently being prepared for winter and all digging has ceased. This year we have removed the remains of flint walls and chalk bunds that probably constituted a boundary to the site and have revealed a complex collection of pits, post holes and gullies cut into the underlying chalk. One pit, partially revealed at the edge of the excavation, has a thick layer of burnt clay in the top fill and charcoal in the bottom 10 cm and this may be a small charcoal kiln pit. Careful excavation next year will be required to examine this proposition. The large boundary ditch found last year has been more fully excavated but there is still a paucity of finds to assist dating this feature. We have had more luck with some of the other features with pottery being found within several cuts. The site stratigraphy is intriguing and continually proving a challenge to excavate and interpret. The largest feature we have found cut into the chalk is believed to be a well with an associated chalk wall the overall dimension being about 3 m by 2m. Investigation of this feature will continue next year. Registered finds have included arrow heads, a lead token, a possible ferrous knife blade from one of the oldest contexts and a wide range of pottery sherds from Saxon to modern periods. Excavations will resume in April 2017 when there will be digging opportunities for non-members who, by appointment, can join us on site for the day. If they find that the activities are "for them" they can then join the Society. Details can be obtained by visiting our website (<http://www.brightonarch.org.uk>). (BHAS).

***Pett: Pett Level** (NGR: TQ 88806 13061: Pett parish). Recording of the Neolithic/Bronze Age submerged forest was co-ordinated by CITiZAN and carried out by volunteers including members of Hastings Area Archaeological Research Group and Winchelsea Archaeological Society over one weekend in September 2016. The details of circa 40 trees were recorded and samples were taken for species identification and dating. A small flat piece of timber sitting *in situ* on top of the peat appeared to be worked; this was lifted and is awaiting assessment by MOLA's timber specialist. The data collected will be added to that collected by Dr Scott Timpany of the University of the Highlands and Islands during a 2014 English Heritage funded project and during a CITiZAN co-ordinated weekend in September 2015. A return to collect more data in September 2017 is planned (CITiZAN/HAARG/Winchelsea Arch Soc).

Plumpton: Plumpton College Roman Villa (TQ 360 147). (Director: David Rudling). In 2013/14 a programme of geophysical surveys (both resistivity and magnetometry) and limited trial trenching was undertaken by Chris Butler Archaeological Services and the Sussex School of Archaeology to more fully assess the extent, nature and condition of a villa complex first discovered during the 1970s. During the summers of 2015 and 2016 the Sussex School of Archaeology followed up the evaluation work of 2014 with a programme of research and training excavations. These investigations fully revealed the winged corridor house, and confirmed that in an earlier form it had been a rectangular structure comprising five rooms in a line. The exposed remains included a south-facing corridor which fronted a line of three large rooms separated by sub-divided smaller rooms, and terminating at the eastern and western ends in projecting wing-rooms. The front (southern) wall of the eastern wing-room is internally apsidal, whilst its outer face is straight. In contrast the room at the western end of the corridor, which at this point surprisingly continues to the south-west, is not square with the rest of the house. Much of the large room to the north of the eastern wing-room contains the remains of what is thought to be an inserted rectangular 'corn-drying' or 'malting' oven. At the other end of the line of main rooms, a pit beneath the floor of the villa yielded sherds from a straight-sided Later Bronze Age

pottery vessel which had four applied pierced lugs. Traces of masonry walls abutting the outer face of the western wall of the Roman-period room at this end of the villa demonstrate that further rooms lie to the west. Evidence for the nature of some of the former flooring in the villa includes finds of both red tile tesserae and small mosaic cubes. Just to the east of the villa is a concentration of flint rubble which may be the floor of a timber-framed building or perhaps the infill of a building with deeper foundations, such as a bath-house. Dating evidence from the villa complex in general spans the third and early fourth centuries. Further investigations will take place in late June-July 2017 (Sussex School of Archaeology).

Polegate: Chaucer Business (TQ 60164 04507). (Site Code: CBP 16. Site Director: Jon Baczkowski). Evaluation comprising six 20m x 2.5m trenches were opened, and two areas which had been previously stripped of topsoil during previous building works, were reduced by machine excavator to natural. Two features of archaeological interest were recorded in the evaluation. A shallow, heavily truncated ditch orientated east to west, the only finds from the ditch were two fragments of fire-cracked flint and one piece of worked flint. A second ditch, orientated northeast to southeast, was recorded in three trenches. Modern rubble and waste, such as metal piping, bricks and builders gravel had been dumped along the length of the ditch, and it was concluded that the ditch was likely to be a Late Post Medieval field boundary, which had been backfilled during recent building works. No other features of archaeological interest were recorded in the evaluation and it was noted that the site had been used as a dumping ground for waste from the surrounding building works (CBAS).

Ringmer: Land at The Forge, Bishops Lane (TQ 4529 1279). (Site Director: Sean Wallis. Site Code: TFR14/208). Two small excavation areas were stripped (one was done in two parts due to the presence of a public footpath). Several linear features were recorded, which probably date from the medieval period. A feature near the site entrance which had been interpreted as a possible kiln during the 2015 evaluation, turned out to be a large pit which was packed with medieval pottery (TVAS).

Robertsbridge: George Hill, Former County Crafts Site (NGR 573783 123402). (Site Code: RSC 16. Director: Giles Dawkes and Seth Price). Five evaluation trenches were excavated. No significant archaeological features or deposits were identified. The historic brick building was constructed between 1898 and 1909 as a part of the auction mart for the sale of livestock. The building is unremarkable, and in a poor state of repair. The building does retain a number of original features however, including a cast-iron fireplace, and has some historic significance as a surviving remnant of the former mart – which was a feature of the town and its history from the early 20th-century until the 1970s (ASE).

Rye: Bridge Point, Rye (TQ 91972 20021). (Site code: BPR 16. Site Director: Dr Mike Allen). Evaluation Phase 1: Coring revealed highly sandy deposits of perimarine (near marine) conditions - mainly unconsolidated and wet sands to 11m, with some bands of silt. These sandy unconsolidated deposits were often almost liquid sand and are less likely to preserve long pollen records than fine-grained alluvium. Some bands of up to 15-20cm of more consolidated silt were present but were difficult to record from the shell and auger. Nevertheless a thin peat band 70mm thick was present (at 9.79-9.86m) below which was a firm silt (9.86-9.95m+) which again gave way to further sandy deposits (10.10m) and it was expected the deposits to continue and become coarser onto gravels. The deposits are considered to be of low palaeoenvironmental potential (CBAS).

Saltdean: Coombe Farm (TQ 39184 03363). (Site code: CFM 16. Site Director: Jon Baczkowski). Ten evaluation trenches were excavated. No archaeological features were recorded. A line of modern fence posts were found in Trench 3, relating to a recent vegetable garden for Coombe Farmhouse. A small amount of residual prehistoric flintwork was found. Several periglacial features were recorded relating to Quaternary solifluction processes (CBAS).

Seaford: 47 Fitzgerald Avenue (TV 48982 98563). (Site Code: FAS 16. Site Director: Steffan Klemenic). No archaeological deposits or features were encountered during the watching brief. The

uppermost deposit was the topsoil, which directly overlay the subsoil, which sat directly above the natural sand, which was only encountered in the southwest part of the Site. The foundations of the existing early 20th- century house and a former soakaway were also recorded (CBAS).

Seaford: Cresta, Crouch Lane (TV 4852 9881). (Site code: CLS 16. Site Director: Jon Baczkowski). Watching brief following on from evaluation. The main archaeological features were a section of ditch with a terminal end, a burnt deposit, a ditch terminus, a small pit and an 8m length of chalk and flint wall. All of the cut features produced pottery ranging from the 12th to 14th century (*pers. com.* Luke Barber). The burnt deposit is located in a hollow and may relate to a demolished kiln or oven. Pottery of a similar date was found in this feature. The two sections of ditch appear to relate to the same large medieval boundary ditch which ran east to west across the site. No dating evidence was recovered from the wall; however its form of construction may indicate it is of a medieval to early-post-medieval date (CBAS).

Seaford: 11 Blatchington Road (TV 48240 99283). (Site code: BRS 16. Site Director: Jon Baczkowski). An evaluation excavation of a single hand-excavated 1m x 1m test pit within a late 19th-century garage. Groundwater was encountered at a depth of 1.1m below the existing ground level, after which conditions within the test pit became unworkable. Below the concrete hardstanding of the garage, the stratigraphy solely comprised five deposits of made ground, some of which appear to have infilled an extraction pit or pond seen on the 1874-1875 Ordnance Survey map (CBAS).

Selmeston: Land to the east of The Street (TQ 5092 0684). (Site Director: Teresa Vieira. Site Code: SSS16/188). Ten double width evaluation trenches were excavated across the site. The only features recorded were an undated ditch and a possible post-hole containing Roman pottery (TVAS).

Stanmer: Rocky Clump (TQ 328101: Stanmer Parish). (Director: John Skelton). The excavations at Rocky Clump have been postponed since 2013 pending further development of our Ovingdean excavations (BHAS).

Ticehurst: Little Swiftsden (TQ 71638 28497). (Site code: LST 16. Site Director: Jon Baczkowski). Watching brief. One feature of archaeological interest was recorded during the watching brief, Context 026, a large oval pit containing late post-medieval ceramic building material. A series of made-grounds, colluvial and alluvial deposits were also recorded overlying the natural Ashdown Formation and alluvial geology. These may relate to construction activity associated with the 19th-century nursery located at Little Swiftsden, or with earlier episodes of activity, such as the construction of the existing building. A large carved stone door lintel, which had been re-used in a modern garden wall demolished in the course of the works, was also recorded. This possibly relates to the 13th-century moated Great Borzell house, known to have existed close to Little Swiftsden. A photographic survey was also carried on the recently exposed gable end of Little Swiftsden. Examination of the house established that parts of the building may pre-date 1700AD, such as its stone lower wall, but that it also shows signs of being extensively re-built (CBAS).

Udimore: Fagg Farm (NGR TQ 906201). (Site Code: FF 16. Directors: Kevin and Lynn Cornwell). Magnetometer surveys have been completed on two fields which have previously produced Roman CBM (details on the PAS). The results have identified a small farmstead and two archaeological evaluation trenches have been excavated. Ditches have been identified in both but no artefacts recovered from within the features. More work is required (HAARG).

Warbleton: Sapperton Farm, Padgham Lane (TQ 65479 17868: Wealden District Council). (Site code: SFW 16. Director: Lisa Fisher). In August 2016 ASL conducted a watching brief at Sapperton Farm which investigated the excavation of a stream bank in order to insert a new service pipe. Although no archaeological features were recorded a deep section through the stream bank and underlying geology was recorded and the artefacts recovered from the topsoil showed that no early artefacts were present, as the side of the stream has been subjected to many episodes of flooding and

dispersal of soils over time. It should be noted that iron-smelting slag has been found further downstream to the west, but no pieces were recovered during the watching brief (ASL).

***Wellingham, Nr. Barcombe Mills: Bridge Farm.** (NGR TQ 4294 1457: 4.5OD: Ringmer Parish). (Site Code: BF15. Directors: Rob Wallace and David Millum). From 27th June to 21st Aug the Culver Archaeological Project returned to the trench excavated in 2015 on the intersection of Margary's London road (M14) and the late 2nd century double ditch enclosure in its research excavation of this Romano-British settlement. This gave the opportunity to dig below the shallower features and expand some of the areas opened last year such as the road surface. But it was a series of deep pits that became the focus of this year's dig and in particular one in the NE corner that revealed a quadrant of large lumps of sandstone and tap slag forming the lining of a well some 2m below current ground level. Another deep pit in the SE corner had also been half sectioned to 2m with the sides stepped back for safety but this did not have any lining or construction but did yield an 'Oldbury type' glass bead probably dating to either 1st century BC or AD but potentially as a conserved item not definitive for dating the feature. The dig produced several other interesting finds including a bronze 'terret' ring, i.e. part of the harness of a draught animal, 2 hobnail sole patterns and a small bronze fibular brooch complete with pin. A further 10,000 sherds of pottery, to add to last year's 10,000, were removed, cleaned, marked and recorded by the hard working finds team including a delightfully decorated thin-necked jar in a sandy grey fabric probably from the Alice Holt or Farnham group of kilns. We will be returning to this same trench in July/Aug 2017 to continue to excavate potential features at the deeper level (volunteering opportunities will be announced on our website in the spring) . Planned geophysical survey of the possible route of the Greensand Way across The Crink, Barcombe this autumn has had to be cancelled due to an early crop sowing of the land. CAP continued their outreach policy by giving a presentation on their Roman road discoveries and the importance of Ivan Margary at the RRRA conference in Portsmouth in September and have been booked to give Bridge Farm talks to the Eastbourne and Lewes societies early next year. For further details see: www.culverproject.co.uk. (CAP).

Wellingham (Upper): Bridge Farm (TQ 4371 1410: Ringmer parish). Magnetometry showed the Roman roadside settlement ends here, with the Roman road continuing east towards Arlington (David Staveley).

Westham: Red Lion, Lion Hill, Stone Cross (NGR: 561523 104415). (Site Code: RSX 16. Director: Jake Wilson). The area of the watching brief has been heavily disturbed and built up with various levels of made ground throughout its modern history. The majority of the groundworks did not exceed depths lower than this made ground horizon. No archaeological deposits or finds were recorded (ASE).

Westham: The Wells, Stone Cross (NGR TQ 622 045: Westham parish). (Site Code: unknown. Director: Scott Skinner). An archaeological strip map and sample excavation in advance of a major housing development has recorded a Bronze Age field system, significant Iron Age linear ditches and quarries, a medieval (possibly Roman) road and associated medieval settlement (SWAT reported by ESCC).

Westham: Rattle Road, Stone Cross (NGR TQ 621 042: Westham parish). (Site Code: unknown. Director: David Britchfield). An archaeological strip map and sample excavation in advance of a major housing development has recorded a Bronze Age cremation and boundary ditches, a late Iron Age – early Roman settlement and field system, and an early Anglo Saxon cremation cemetery (Wessex Archaeology reported by ESCC).

Willington: Butts Brow (NGR TQ 580 016: Eastbourne parish). (Site Code: BPW 16. Director: Jo Seaman and Greg Chuter). An archaeological evaluation excavation targeting the remains of an earthwork enclosure, identified the enclosure as dating to the early Neolithic period, with strong similarities to the nearby Combe Hill causewayed enclosure (Heritage Eastbourne reported by ESCC).

West Sussex

Angmering: Water Lane (NGR 507544 104454). (Site Code: WAG 16. Director: Garrett Sheehan). Geophysical survey identified ditches forming a complex of enclosures and trackways. The evaluation established that this complex originated in the Late Bronze Age/earliest Iron Age and appeared to continue in use throughout the Iron Age and into the early Roman period. Associated features including extensive occupation spreads, possible evidence for salt production and small scale metal working were also identified within this complex. A medieval field system and a small assemblage of residual flint from later deposits were also of interest (ASE).

Arundel: Gobblestubs Copse (East) (TQ 987075, Slindon Parish). (Site Code: GCWB 16. Site Supervisors: Amie Friend, Gordon Hayden). Preparation began on August 9th/10th on the site, including backfilling one of the 2006 trenches. The dig was from 13th – 27th August, some 36 WAS members took part. Trench 2 from 2006 was cleared and digging went on to the bottom of a ditch, where large pieces of two pots were found, one first century BC, one which appears to be deliberately smashed dating to c. AD 20-60. In other trenches, evidence of burning was found (samples will be sent off for C 14 testing), a possible entrance-way into the enclosure, and a clear trackway leading into the site (WAS).

Boxgrove: Boxgrove Common Pit (centered NGR SU 9159 0830). (Director: Mark Roberts). An ongoing watching brief monitoring the works necessary to achieve the backfilling with inert materials, and restoration of the old quarry. The watching brief has recorded two main profiles through the Middle Pleistocene deposits at the quarry, both excavated for the deep burial of the notifiable and pernicious plant, Japanese Knotweed *Fallopia japonica*. The sections showed the extreme levels of sediment deformation found south of the conformable sequence that was revealed in Eartham Quarry to the north. The most southerly of the sections was also sampled for invertebrate microfossils and a brief report prepared by John Whittaker of the Natural History Museum: the range and preservation of the fossils being similar to that recorded previously. The monitoring of works will continue into 2017, and will also involve the examination of surface Holocene layers as ingress and egress tracks develop and bunds are moved (Institute of Archaeology, UCL).

Chichester: Cathedral and Bishop's Palace (centred NGR SU 859 047). A large scale radar survey in the environs of the cathedral and Bishop's palace was undertaken. Little in the way of Roman structure was visible around the Cathedral, though some buried grave furniture was found. Earlier work by CDAS was confirmed with greater detail shown for the old Bishop's palace in front of the current Bishop's palace, along with a significant Roman building, along with part of the old medieval deanery in the garden of the current deanery (David Staveley).

Chichester Growth Scheme, Chichester (Site Code CNS 16.). Ongoing work that will be updated next time (ASE).

Crawley: The Tree, 103 High Street (NGR TQ 226 368). (Site code: 6120, Director: Seth Price). An archaeological watching brief uncovered a number of medieval and post medieval features. Notably a 13th- century drainage ditch located beneath the former 19th- century extension revealed a sizeable assemblage of artefacts including medieval Earlswood- type pottery dating between 1225- 1300 AD. Given this date and the situation alongside the original hall it is considered to be contemporary with the building. In addition a late medieval slag pit was uncovered to the north end of the site, and the location of a known 18th- century well was confirmed. (ASE, reported by Surrey CC)

Crawley: Forge Wood, NE Sector (NGR TQ 291 389). Further phase of archaeological evaluation on the east side of the development site. Work ongoing, results pending. (ASE, reported by Surrey CC).

Crawley: Goffs Park (NGR TQ 260 361) (Director: Paul Wilkinson). Pre-application evaluation by SWAT archaeology, in order to determine the likely presence of any remains associated with the known Iron Age/Roman ironworking site. Initial findings suggest any archaeological horizons are likely to have been largely destroyed by the former use of the site as a nursery. (SWAT Archaeology, reported by Surrey CC).

Crawley: East of Balcombe Road (Site Code FOR 16.). Ongoing work that will be updated next time (ASE).

Emsworth: Warblington Villa (NGR SU 73446 05915). (Site Code: WB 16. Site Director: James Kenny) The 2016 two-week excavation represents the society's sixth season of excavations at the site. We returned this year to again excavate the western end of a rectangular building, located on the south side of a courtyard, south-east of the villa. Having uncovered evidence for a hypocaust in 2015, this year we went deeper and found the remains of a floor with traces of once pillared columns. Alongside this feature, were remains of walls that suggest a connection to the villa itself – a south range. We also took an opportunity to investigate some circular responses following a Ground Penetrating Radar survey undertaken by Historic England in February 2015. However, they proved to be pebble deposits with marine inclusions, and are suspected as being remains of raised beaches (CDAS).

East Dean: East Dean Woods, Charlton Forest (NGR SU 9106 1548, East Dean Parish). (Directors: Mark Roberts and Fergus Hooper). A 500m transect was surveyed through the field systems under the woodland canopy of Charlton Forest, with soil depth and bedrock height recorded along the transect. Following on from the survey, one of the lynchets was hand excavated in December 2015 and April 2016. The excavation revealed over 200 flint flakes and tools, along with prehistoric pottery from the base of the lynchet and Roman pottery from the upper levels. Analysis of the soil by Richard Macphail at the Institute of Archaeology, shows evidence of the cultivation of loessic soils. Research is continuing in November 2016 as part of the Institute's surveying course (Institute of Archaeology, UCL).

Greatham: The Parlour, Manor Farm (NGR 504265 116018, Greatham parish). No archaeological evidence relating to earlier settlement was found. Final report awaited (CBAS reported by HCC).

Hassocks: Ham Farm (NGR TQ 2988 1607, Hassocks parish). The course of the Hassocks to London road found on the golf course using earth resistance by MSFAT was confirmed in this field using radar. The surface was visible in the north-east corner of the field with the top of the camber ploughed away, with the entire surface ploughed away further to the south. Magnetometry did not reveal the ditches, suggesting the Roman settlement did not extend this far north (David Staveley).

Hassocks: Adastra Park (TQ 3100 1550, Hassocks parish). The course of the Sussex Greensand Way was confirmed in good condition slightly to the south of Margary's line using radar, with a surface varying in width around 4.5m wide. Other possible features suggest roadside settlement (David Staveley).

Haywards Heath: Land at Birchen Lane (NGR 533280 125810). (Site Code: BIR 15. Director: Garrett Sheehan). A total of twenty eight trenches were excavated. Five archaeological features were identified in the northern part of the site and included a possible iron-smelting furnace of possible Iron Age or Roman date with an associated rake-out pit and probable posthole, as well as a ditch of unknown date and a possible post-medieval cart-track. To the south of the site a shallow linear feature of post-medieval date and a group of three possible pits were identified. Recently completed excavation, results to follow next time (ASE).

Haywards Heath: Penlands Farm. (Site Code: HPF 15). Ongoing work that will be updated next time (ASE).

Littlehampton: Fitzalan Link Road and Land at Toddington Lane (NGR 503117 103038). (Site Code: LNR 16. Director: Catherine Douglas and Hayley Nicholls). Recently completed evaluation work, results to follow next time (ASE).

Littlehampton: Toddington Lane (TQ 0332 0401). (Site Director: Sean Wallis. Site Code: TLL 15/192). TVAS concluded their archaeological work in respect of a major redevelopment of a site which had previously been occupied by greenhouses. Numerous features dating from the Late Bronze Age to the Roman period have been recorded. Of particular note are a very large pit, probably dating from the Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age, and a line of flint packed post-holes which date from the Roman period, and must have supported a substantial fence or structure (TVAS).

Littlehampton: Courtwick Lane (TQ 0180 0360). (Site Director: Sean Wallis. Site Code: CLL 10/85). An ongoing watching brief is being carried out in advance of a new housing development. So far a handful of archaeological features have been found in the footing trenches (TVAS).

Milland: South of Weston's Farm Mansio (NGR SU 8448 2591). (Director: Trevor Davies) Resistivity survey undertaken in a field just south of the scheduled Mansio. This visit follows an earlier magnetometry survey CDAS undertook in 2007. A band 90m metres wide running alongside the Roman road was surveyed. A number of features including the Roman road itself were recorded. This survey has confirmed the ditch features identified in the magnetometry survey, and located others, most notably a circular structure about 10m in diameter (CDAS).

North Mundham: Stoney Meadow, School Lane (SU 8750 0245). (Site Director: Teresa Vieira. Site Code: SMC16/135). Nine trenches were excavated on the site which will be redeveloped for housing. No archaeological finds or features were recorded (TVAS).

Petworth: Petworth Park (SU 965 218, Tillington parish). (Director: Alastair Pearson). A geophysical survey was undertaken as part of a University of Portsmouth remote sensing field school, including Ground Penetrating Radar, examining the remains of the medieval village of Tillington within Petworth Park. Awaiting report (NT).

Rustington: Land west of Mill Lane (Site Code: SRB 05. Director: Odile Rouard). Ongoing work that will be updated next time (ASE).

Selsey: Park Farm (SZ 8624 9422). (Site Director: Teresa Vieira. Site Code: PFS16/34). Twenty eight trenches were excavated in an area of farmland which will be subject to re-development. The only archaeological feature was a poorly dated gully (TVAS).

Shoreham: Buckingham Park (TQ 2221 0606, Shoreham parish). A slight earthwork suggested as the course of a Roman road by Margary was examined. Radar showed no surface, and magnetometry showed three parallel ditches. The results are inconclusive, and the feature may represent an old boundary of some sort (David Staveley).

***Singleton: Downley, Cucumber Farm** (centred NGR SU 8681 1424, Singleton Parish). (Director: Mark Roberts). The third season of the Institute of Archaeology's student training excavation at Downley, revealed the footprint of the Mediaeval hunting lodge, which was predominantly constructed with flint and Upper Greensand. The building, at its southern end, was terraced into the solid Chalk thus creating a cellar or under-croft room in excess of 1.5m deep. The excavation also revealed a substantial Iron Age ditch that appears to run around the northern margin of Hat Hill, together with Iron Age pits both within and without the ditch. The pits contained early to mid-Iron Age decorated pottery, flint scrapers, and faunal remains: one of which, a horses skull, is interpreted as a votive offering. A considerable Roman presence at the site was attested to by the discovery of ditches and a substantial amount of pottery both abraded and fresh, the pottery is mostly local – Rowlands Castle and Alice Holt wares but with some Gaulish slip ware and three sherds of Samian.

Excavations commence again on May 8th 2017, with opportunity for volunteer involvement (Institute of Archaeology, UCL).

Slindon: Field 20 (TQ 955114, Slindon Estate). Magnetometry was done in July over the possible corn-drier, in advance of a possible return early in 2017 (WAS).

Slinfold: Alfoldean (NGR 11859 33107, Slinfold Parish) (Co-ordinated by Vicky Lillywhite). A Magnetometry survey was undertaken by Worthing Archaeological Society on behalf of Horsham District Archaeology Society of Great Meadow field at Alfoldean to see if it was possible to locate the suggested original course of Stane Street, which historical records indicate could have been about 17 feet east of its current alignment. Initial results have not obviously located the road, but results so far suggest other possible features, and the survey is not yet completed (HDAG)

Sompting: land by church (TQ 157054, Sompting Parish). Resisitivity and magnetometry have been done on a field west of Sompting Church, in between crops, to see whether there is any trace of the possible Roman road (WAS).

Southbourne: Land at Alfrey Close (NGR 601337 141054). (Site Code: ACL 16. Director: Jake Wilson). Evidence of an area of intensive Roman settlement to the north of the site, with a series of ditches in the northwest making up the edge of the possible settlement enclosure. Several pits, a ditch and a cremation of Bronze Age date are located along the edges of the field to the south. The majority of the finds all date to the Roman period (2nd-3rd century) with a small amount of prehistoric and post-medieval finds as well (ASE).

Southwater: Land west of Southwater (NGR 515336 126731). (Site Code: WSW 13. Director: Tom Munnery). Twenty-three trenches measuring up to 30m in length were excavated. Small quantities of residual worked flint were recovered from the overburden across the site. Evidence of Iron Age activity, represented by ditches and an occupation layer was identified in a small area of the site. Evidence of burn beating was also encountered which might derive from this period. Post-medieval activity was represented by a small collection of 19th- and 20th- century pottery in the overburden (ASE).

Tangmere: Waste Water Treatment Works Some work reported but no details (ASE reported by WSCC).

West Dean: College and village (centred NGR SU 8635 1282, West Dean Parish). (Director: Mark Roberts). Watching brief. A watching brief was undertaken on works associated with a new biomass building and associated hot water pipelines. The footprint of the building revealed only features associated with the IoA's early technology course, which has run at the site for many years. The bedrock slope was discernible running south-eastwards into the valley of the Lavant and overlying, calcareous coombe rock to a depth of 1.0m was also recorded. The pipelines were extremely narrow *c.* 0.50m and dug to a depth of *c.* 0.90m, they were predominantly cut through the superficial coombe rock deposits but in places proved and entered the rockhead surface; in the valley bottom the junction of the coombe rock and the fluvial gravels of the Lavant was observed. The few finds encountered were from the trench arisings and included bones from domesticated livestock processing, some C17th- pottery, and a stone distance or boundary marker. In the pipeline cutting adjacent to West Dean Church, human remains were encountered, these were extremely mixed and buried in random clusters; they are interpreted as material from graves disturbed when building the outer graveyard wall in the C19th. The remains were collected together and reinterred immediately (Institute of Archaeology, UCL).

West Heath Quarry Work associated with the quarry extension. This work is on going but interim statements indicate that no substantive archaeological remains have yet been encountered (PCA reported by HCC).

Wisborough Green: Petworth Road (Site Code: WGP 16.). Ongoing work that will be updated next time (ASE).

Worthing to Wineham: Rampion Offshore Windfarm (NGR 517302 103251 to 524219 121083). (Site Code: TMB 15. Director: Giles Dawkes). An ongoing programme of archaeological watching brief and strip, map and sample. To date, a small number of later prehistoric, late IA/RB, medieval and post-medieval features have been recorded and a late Saxon burial. As part of the scheme ASE have also carried out the hand excavation of a 15m section of cross-dyke at Tottington Mount. Full archaeological details will be made available in the forthcoming Post-Excavation Assessment following completion of the project. For further details on the scheme please contact the E.on press office <https://pressreleases.eon-uk.com/blogs/eonukpressreleases/archive/2015/05/18/2430.aspx>

NB. No fieldwork to report for this period from:

CG Archaeology
Philippa Whitehill

NB: No fieldwork reports for this period received by deadline from:

CDC
Cuckmere Archaeological Group
Development Archaeological Services
Eastbourne Museum Service
ENHAS
Sussex Industrial Archaeological Society
SMHS
West Sussex Archaeology
Winchelsea Archaeological Society
WIRG