

ERAS News

EAST RIDING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

No. 78 SEPTEMBER 2012



Taking readings for a pseudo-section profile on a LEADER Project site.

Photo: N.Reily

*Local News ~ LEADER Heritage at Risk Project ~ IARSS Conference ~ Industrial Archaeology
Heritage Open Days ~ Visibility on Clay ~ Snippets of Significance ~ Events & ERAS Diary*

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ERAS LOCAL NEWS . .

Collect your Volume 13

The printers have said they expect to deliver the new volume during the week beginning 10 September so it should be available for distribution, at the September lecture meeting. Members always receive the newest publication for free, and can buy earlier ones at the normal price, or sometimes at a reduced price depending on how many we have left. Please try to pick up your book from one of the lecture meetings if possible, as it costs over £5 to post them out. Volume 14 is also in preparation.

Terry Manby

Congratulations to ERAS member Terry Manby who has been awarded an honorary doctorate in recognition of his contributions to archaeology. Terry is a former President of the Yorkshire regional Museums Federation and has been Chairman of the East Riding Archaeological Research Trust since 1987. He is well known for his pioneering work on the Neolithic and Bronze Age archaeology of northern England, his national studies on Prehistoric lithic and ceramic traditions and his excavations of key sites in the East Riding, such as Willerby Wold and Kilham long barrows, the Staxton, Grindale and Boynton round barrows and the Thwing late Bronze Age ringwork. This is a well deserved award.

Welton Wold Pottery

Before his move, down South, pottery specialist Ian Rowlandson had been supervising a group of volunteers refining the classifications and illustrating the pottery from Rod Mackey's 1970s excavation of the Iron Age/Romano-British site at Welton Wold. This project is still progressing, despite being directed from afar. Many such large sites excavated with government funding in the 1970s were never given a realistic budget for publication and post-excavation work. It seems that lessons were learnt, for greater details of funding for publication would now be expected to be considered in any project design.

People are often surprised at how long it can take to complete post-excavation work, but for this large 17 acre site, it involves having to digitize older data from hand written lists and site-books and typed specialist reports. Colin Parr and Richard Coates have been helping Rod with this task and although the very many colour slides and black/white negatives still need to be scanned in, they are making progress. Welton Wold is a site worthy of a fuller publication than it has so far had, in publications such as *Further Light on the Parisi*. You can see a reconstruction illustration, by Rod of the landscape of the site and a diagram of the 30m deep well, which was excavated, in the displays at the Hull and East Riding Museum, High Street, Hull.

(N&P) Mr C S and Mrs J ?

also A Esnee?

Is this you??

Standing Order Mystery -

Our retiring treasurer Lesley Jackson asked me to try to find a couple of mystery standing order payers who appear in the bank statements and cannot be linked up with the membership list. The first one is missing a surname and the second one may be a typo or possibly 'A Esnee' is paying on behalf of another person or from a bank account with a different name. If anyone recognizes these names or initials please get in touch with me.

Your Newsletter by email?

If you would prefer to have your newsletter by email **only**, please send me an email saying so, thus ensuring I have your correct email Postage is getting expensive now but we will continue with the traditional newsletter if that is what you want. Some people have said they don't like a lot of printed paper around the house whilst others prefer to sit down with a coffee and read the newsletter at leisure, rather than on screen. Its up to you so please let me know.

Field Studies

Work continues on the pottery from the Arram excavation, with members learning how to assess the details of fabric types and conditions, under the guidance of Graham Myers and Richard Coates, with 'distance learning' support from Ian Rowlandson in Sussex. Meetings are on the first Weds of the month at 19.30hrs at St. Nicholas Community Centre, Holme Church Lane, Beverley. You can just turn up or if you want to know more about what we do, contact Graham Myers on 07815 088573.

Industrial Archaeology

Richard Lamb (see article page 8) was wondering if any other members are particularly interested in industrial archaeology. It's a subject usually more popular in West Yorkshire with its great industrial heritage, but if you would like us to have the occasional lecture on this topic please let programme organizer Richard Coates know. coates8@coates8.karoo.co.uk

Re-wrapping

ERAS has many hundreds of older volumes remaining from the days of over optimistic print runs. The committee is to consider selling most of these off to a specialist bookdealer, keeping only a small sale stock of our own. The volumes are now stored at Humber Archaeology Partnership's premises, but need rewrapping in standard counted bundles, as most of the wrappings are torn. If anyone is feeling strong enough and committed enough to help with this task, (once committee has approved the idea) please contact me.

Editor

‘LEADER’ SURVEY

of Scheduled Ancient Monuments

Thirty ERAS members have so far volunteered to take part in the Leader Heritage at Risk (HAR) project being undertaken by the Society investigating the condition and survival of monuments in cultivation. Several training days have already taken place on Beverley Westwood, with permission from the Pasture Master. Volunteers practiced setting up the level, taking readings, setting out the lines for a resistivity survey, using the meter, recording a few core samples and carrying out a practice pseudo-section survey. This latter process is tedious and repetitive, but requires concentration if mistakes are not to be made, as we found out, on the first real survey. Because of the geology of the Westwood area, results were not especially interesting, but as a training area, it sufficed and was fairly accessible for most people.

The surveys will be carried out on up to five Scheduled Ancient Monument sites. The timing of the surveys will of course be dependent on the weather and the harvesting and re-sowing regimes, but must be completed in 2012. As previously reported the survey sites will be restricted to two linear monument sites and three barrow sites and have been selected from those sites on the chalk uplands of the Wolds. The reason for this is that these sites should have the best potential to yield good geophysical survey results.

There are four main aims of this survey

- A. To attempt to establish the stratigraphic profile of the monument and where possible compare with any previous data.
- B. To provide evidence of any surviving land surfaces
- C. To compare and validate results from the resistivity profile (pseudo section) survey with selected coring
- D. To retrieve samples for future environmental analysis

The five Scheduled Ancient Monument survey sites have now been selected and permission has kindly been granted by the land owners, farm estate managers and farmers for us to conduct the surveys. In addition the necessary survey licences have been obtained from English Heritage.

Several ERAS members carried out the first of our surveys over two weekends in late August across a section of a linear ditch on the high Wolds. The results from the plan resistivity survey and the resistivity profile section (pseudo section) geophysical survey are very good and clearly show the monument as being a double ditch and bank.

We learned a lot from carrying out the first survey and were grateful that one of our volunteers came unexpectedly well equipped - with scissors, (though secateurs might have been better) for removing nettles and briars. We had decided to extend our planned survey line, to check out the adjacent lane, but the mat of briars in this area, prevented the insertion of the 40 relatively short steel probes into the ground for the pseudo-section survey. Determination and scissors prevailed and we were able to do the full survey line.

Once set up, the process of simultaneously moving the four connecting wires, one metre at a time, along the 40m long line of steel probes, six times, at ever widening intervals to give a series of readings sounds simple. In the end, to achieve the required level of concentration, we had to ban all talking and joking, except when walking back to the beginning of the line each time. Nobody seemed to mind and the results were very good, in that they tied in well with the resistivity survey and aerial photo evidence. People passing by in the lane must have wondered what on earth we were doing, especially as our hand signals to the meter operator to say we were each ready for the reading to be taken, looked like we were asking Permission to leave the field, Sir!

Some coring was also to be done on each of the sites. The recording of the core samples is quite a time consuming process and we were planning to ensure continuity and consistency throughout the sites, in the assessment of any soils examined. It seems that, due to limitations imposed by English Heritage, less coring than anticipated will now be done. Another slight change of plan is that due to problems regarding the availability of the magnetic gradiometer this survey equipment will now only be used on the final three of the five sites.

The second survey, on the site of a barrow at Garton Slack, will probably be carried out over two or three weekends commencing early in September. It is anticipated that our third survey site will be available in mid to late September and will be accessible for a period of four to six weeks. The fourth and fifth survey sites will have a much longer window of accessibility and it is likely that surveying on these sites will take place during October.

If you would like to be involved with the survey, even if you haven't been on any of the training days, please contact Richard Coates by email
coates8@coates8.karoo.co.uk

Richard Coates



Learning how to record a core sample. Photo: K. Dennett



Doing a topographical survey on the Wolds Photo: K. Dennett



Nick and Sam practicing, at some speed with the resistivity meter, on Beverley Westwood. Photo: N. Reily



The new level, bought for the Heritage at Risk project with LEADER funding. Photo: N. Reily



LEADER
Coast, Wolds, Wetlands & Waterways



The European Agricultural
Fund for Rural Development:
Europe investing in rural areas



IRON AGE RESEARCH STUDENT SEMINARS, 2012

Tim Champion, introducing this year's seminars, held at Southampton University referred to the inelegance of what has become the acronym for the event – IARSS! The seminars are a friendly and critical context for the younger generation to present work and are increasingly international - by students, for students. The sessions, spread over two days, are always very well chaired and there is usually a visit to local sites on the last day.

Rod Mackey and myself attended, as I find it a useful way of keeping up with trends in Iron Age research and of making contacts with possible speakers for ERAS (although we were just about the oldest people there). Also representing our region, was Yvonne Inall, an Australian PhD student at Hull University researching Iron Age spears. I can't include all the presentations, but have summarised a few interesting ideas and views which emerged over the weekend. (Any errors are strictly my own and due to my somewhat erratic note-taking).

Michael Ann Bevevino – (Discovery Programme, Ireland) talked about her work on the Late Iron Age and Roman Ireland project (LIARI). Irish history has always dwelt on the details given in the ecclesiastical documents known as the Irish Chronicles (mid to late 1st century AD). Michael Ann said that in terms of the Atlantic Bronze Age network, Ireland is very important, yet the Iron Age is the least understood period in Ireland and there is very little information. The Iron Age is always the 'elephant in the room'.

During subsequent discussion, about the Discovery Project, Colin Haselgrove commented that, for the Iron Age, we expect to find houses. He asked if it was true to say that the Discovery Project is setting out to find something that isn't there in Ireland. Tim Champion said it was difficult to come to terms with the lack of Iron Age houses and we need to challenge our accepted chronologies by more radiocarbon dating. Michael Ann replied that many archaeologists leave Ireland and never return and things had not been done well in the past. She said that of 80 corn drying kilns near Dublin, for example, only two were dated and these were found to be Bronze Age.

Rachel Pope also said that in Ireland there needs to be a completely different strategy ie. routine dating of sites. Michael Ann said she didn't think that more of the big linear pipeline and road projects was the answer, as there was now no money to assess, dig or follow up the new sites discovered this way - only LIDAR was available to the current Discovery Project.

Looking at the Roman period, especially in the west of Ireland, Michael Ann said there were many Roman artefacts, intrinsic rather than intrusive, and she felt it was not a question of whether the Romans were there, but rather, how much they were there. Ogham stones with seemingly Roman names may refer to people returning home after serving in the Roman army. It has also been suggested that the Drumanagh promontory fort in Co. Dublin was a trading port and could be compared to Hengistbury Head, Dorset.

In response to a question from Tim Champion about whether the introduction of Christianity was going to be a part of the research she replied that this was certainly the case and there was already much discussion about the role (or otherwise) of St Patrick in conversions. Asked about the Irish response to the new data coming out of this project, she said it was not good. Many people felt that the information was challenging their own perception of their roots and culture. She felt that wider discussion of these issues could be something the President might be able to influence.

Rodrigo Pacheco Ruiz – standing in for someone who couldn't attend, Rodrigo stunned the audience with his wonderful video presentation, based on hydrodynamic tidal modeling, part of a massive project being carried out in conjunction with colleagues in the Oceanographic Centre. The presentation showed water ingress, with super-realistic wave action, in the Scilly Isles and suggested how velocity would build up in a channel. Hydrodynamic modeling has the ability to link archaeological and environmental studies and can integrate palaeological data. Dramatic change happened in the Scilly Isles and there was major land loss, but by the Iron Age, it looked very much as it does now. A loss rate of half the land in two to three generations has been estimated. The model showed how changing sea levels and the related forces building up in the future could prevent the easy access we have now. The project will be useful to archaeologists for looking at sediment transport, silting patterns, and settlement change.

Triggered by the problems involved in the idea of artefacts being used as a proxy for the movement of people, there was some discussion with Michael Ann Bevevino about the movement of people and about how far they traveled and how one could go about establishing what was the norm for travel. She said that foundation burials in Ireland are often of women incomers and they certainly represented movement. She said people did use coracles to travel between Britain and Ireland. Rodriguez said we don't have the boat evidence, and that it is easier, considering wind and currents, to travel from the Scilly Islands to Ireland than from the Scillies to Cornwall and

similarly, going from Brittany to Ireland was easier than going from Brittany to Britain.

Sophie Adams – (University of Leicester) spoke about her work looking at Iron Age brooches and commented that there was a big increase in the use of iron for brooches during the mid La Tene period. Although many more brooches are now becoming available for study via the Portable Antiquities Scheme, she noted that there was not a single find, from a securely dated context, of the early Hallstatt D period ie the small bulbous forms. She was well aware of the problems of data gathering and interpretation and accepted that various biases had to be taken into account, but concluded by questioning whether the accepted chronology is correct. During the subsequent discussion, Dr Rachel Pope made the point that previously, in building up such chronologies, research tended to involve having papers spread all over the floor and the use of a single typewriter. Students now have access to data sets never before imagined possible, and should not be afraid of being ‘wrong’ or of seeing the data throwing up odd associations. Sophie Adams will be speaking to ERAS about her work at the April 2013 meeting.

Brittany Hill – University of Southampton, spoke on Birds, Beasts and Burial: changes in Iron Age and RB funerary practices. She made the point that in a cremation, although the bodily breakdown process occurs faster than in a burial, it certainly does not mean that the either the ceremonial, the mourning period or the return to normality is faster. The whole thing is always a performance by the living. She looked not only at differences in funerary practice, but also at human awareness of animals and their inter-relationship, over the period of the Late Iron Age/Romano British transition. She commented that osteological studies, with which she is concerned, are always about the statistics – disease, sex, height etc and she felt that study of the humanity aspect is lacking. In response, Tim Champion said that, usually, only human remains which are recognized as ‘a burial’ are sent for study. He would like to see proper analysis of all human remains, as part of the background environmental study of any site excavated and thought there needed to be a serious discussion of fragmentation on British sites.

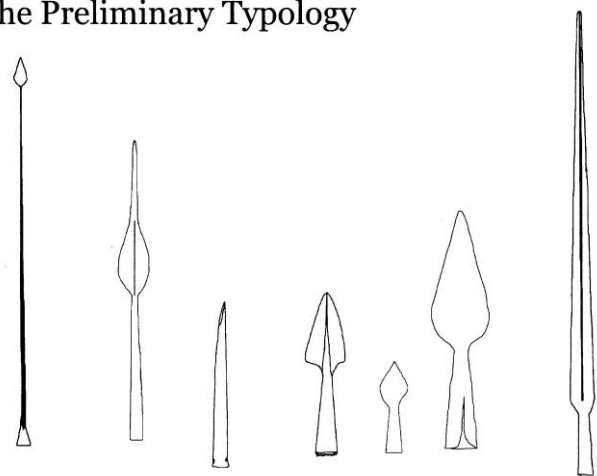
Yvonne Innell – An Australian PhD student at Hull University, Yvonne is studying Iron Age spears. Having previously studied spears in an Italian context, she is now looking at British weapons and was sponsored by East Riding Archaeological Research Trust (ERART), the Tony Brewster memorial fund, to look at the East Yorkshire material in the British Museum. She has so far looked at three different typologies – Ian Stead’s work on material from East Yorkshire burials, Manning’s typology on the Hod Hill material and Brunaux and Rapin’s work on the French site at Gournay. All have their short comings.

Stead agreed there was a lot more work to be done with his material, in which classifications are based on the shape and the maximum blade width. The Manning typology ignored the role of the socket in the spears, chose only Romano-British material, and had rather too much overlap between the categories, making it difficult to establish an ideal for each type, The Gournay typology, with five categories was much clearer.

Yvonne asked what a useful typology might tell us and highlighted a debate which has been raging for many years, about whether typologies should be strictly scientifically based or whether a more intuitive approach is useful. She has started to produce her own typology and has so far identified seven categories - ‘Celtic *pilum*’ ‘Bayonette’, Bone points, Triangular bladed, Diamond bladed, Classical broad blade forms and Long angular forms. Her outline illustration of the seven categories, in order from left to right, as listed above, is shown below.

Depositional differences were also of interest for future research and she noted that those thought to have been thrown into graves were lighter and asked whether they could possibly have been made especially for funerary purposes. Rod Mackey made the point that it is possible that those thrown into the grave might have belonged to ordinary people, whereas those from the South Cave weapons cache might have belonged to a more elite group of people.

The Preliminary Typology



Yvonne acknowledged help from Jody Joy, Ben Roberts, Terry Manby, Peter Halkon, Dave Marchant and ERART

Kate Dennett

Open Days for Engineering Buffs.

Originally used mainly for pumping water out of mines, the only Newcomen engine in the world still in-situ, is housed at Elsecar Heritage Centre near Barnsley and is considered to be one of the most important surviving monuments of our industrial heritage. ERAS member Richard Lamb, is giving guided tours for HODS week and sent me the following details.

The Newcomen engine, invented by Thomas Newcomen, 1664-1729, was the earliest successful prime mover used mainly to pump mines dry, the first documented engine being erected within sight of Dudley Castle in 1712. It used very low pressure steam, in a cylinder, subsequently condensed by the injection of cold water to form a partial vacuum, the power being produced by the action of atmospheric pressure on the piston pushing it down, and thus raising water from the mine through the intermediacy of a beam or 'great lever'. The Elsecar Engine began work in 1795 and was fitted with a new cylinder in 1801 following an accident, details of which have only just been found. A second wooden beam was fitted in 1811 and the final cast iron beam in 1836. It continued to work until 1923 and was brought back into action in 1928 after floods. Henry Ford offered to buy it for his own museum, but was refused by colliery owner Earl Fitzwilliam.

The tour, lasting about an hour, starts with a look at a one sixth scale model I am just finalizing, which shows various features not now apparent, a 1951 film by Shell of the Elsecar Engine at work and a short film of a model engine I have operated for many years. The tour covers three floors of the engine house and so is sadly not suitable for the disabled. The Heritage Centre also offers the chance to see Fitzwilliam's workshops, mining remains including a heritage railway, canal, village and the site of Elsecar blast furnaces. Nearby are Rockley Engine House and Furnace, Wortley Top Forge (where I am a volunteer), Hoylandswaine Nail Forge and Worsbrough Mill. The Forge and nail forge are also open but please check first.

Grants obtained, mean that the engine can now be renovated to some sort of operational condition, using hydraulics to provide motion. I have given many guided tours and was fortunate to have operated a full size replica 1712 engine at the Black Country Living Museum at Dudley, also a small replica built by a colleague. It was a Newcomen engine which was used by Hull's waterworks for pumping water in the city, fed by the Spring Ditch.

Richard Lamb

Heritage Open Days at Elsecar Heritage Centre near Barnsley. 7th – 9th September . 11am, 1.30pm and 3.30pm each day.

Elsecar, NGR SK 386999 is signposted off the M1..

Courses and events

THE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Hull & East Riding Branch,

Sat 22 Sept: - Southwell Minster and the Workhouse
Guided and audio tours. Contact Sylvia Usher on 01482 448065 for details

Thurs 11 October

The Thirty Years War (1618-48): Europe's Most Destructive Conflict. Prof. Peter Wilson, University of Hull.

Thurs. 15 November.

Churchill's Myth Making Machine and the Legacy of his 'Histories'. Ms. Catherine Wilson, BA. University of Hull.

Thurs 17 January.

Children in Victorian Factories: Challenging the Images. Dr Susan Walton, University of Hull.

Thurs 21 February.

The Iron Age Under New management. Mr Bill Coultard. Southburn Museum.

Joint meeting with the Classical Association.

Venue: Hull University, Graduate Research Centre)

Thurs 21 March.

The Healthy Medieval Diet. Dr Iona McCleery, University of Leeds. The AGM precedes this lecture.

Venue for the lecture meetings: (unless otherwise stated)
The Danish Church of St Nikolas, Osbourne St. Hull, HU1 2PN. There is a small charge, for non-members, but tea, coffee and biscuits are generally available, after the lecture, in this small but comfortable venue close to Ferensway, Hull city centre. 7.30pm start.

Geology Courses

It was disappointing to hear that the University of Hull has closed its Centre for Continuing Learning in Samman Grove, Hull, which means no more part time Geology courses. These were always popular with Eras members. As geology is such an important part of archaeology, it would be good to see classes being offered by other providers in the future. However the Geology Society continues to meet at Hull University and always offers an interesting, though very specialized, programme of lectures. Contact mike Horne, evenings only, on 01482 346784 if you are interested in joining. (Don't be alarmed if you get through to the Mountain Rescue Service, but you can leave a message to be passed on to Mike)

Editor

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

In the hope that you will get this newsletter in time to attend some events, there is a great programme on offer for this year's Heritage Open Days, in association with Hull Civic Society, from Thurs 6th to Sun 9th September. You can check it out on www.hodshull.co.uk For those without internet access, get a brochure from libraries or information centres. *Some of the following venues or tours will need pre-booking*, but places open at some point over the four days include the following -

Maister House, Blaydes House, The Pacific Exchange, Georgian houses at no.23 and 24 all in High Street,

The Neptune Inn above Boots in Whitefriargate,
The BBC Building in Queens Gardens,
Hull History Centre in Worship St,
Charterhouse Chapel and gardens,
St. Charles Borromeo Church, Albion Street,
HM Hull Prison,
Hull New Theatre
Hull truck Theatre,
The Guildhall,
Hull City Hall,
Hull Tidal Barrier,
Arctic Corsair trawler,

Museum of Humber Cars,
East Yorkshire Heritage buses,

Pearson Park,
Pickering Park
Thwaite Botanical Gardens, Cottingham,
Holderness House gardens,
Rectory Bees at Sutton

Hymers College, Hymers Avenue,
Hull Collegiate School, Tranby Croft,

Many local churches

Hull FC Heritage weekend at KC Stadium

G F Smith, paper company tour,
Arco tour
Intertech tour
Ideal Heating tour
Odlings, monumental marble and stone, tour
Hull Docks tour
The Maltings, former brewer, tour

Map Library, Hull University,
Jubilee Restaurant, Hull University,
Hive, Hull University's centre for 3D visualization, data capture and high performance computer technology,

The Art Collection, Hull University
Liquid Crystals - Chemistry Department, Hull University,

Avenues Heritage walk,
Geology walk, city centre,
Holderness Rd tour,
Garden Village tour
Beverley Rd tour,
3 Walls and a River history tour,

Plus talks on Archaeology, Arctic trawlermen, Poetry, Crime and slum conditions, Cinema and theatre.

The Heritage Fun Day on Saturday 8th in Holy Trinity Square, in Hull's Old Town is a must, with live music, traditional crafts and weaving displays, a pram parade, traditional dancers, an ERAS display and lots more.

Also, sounding very interesting and forwarded to me by YAS colleagues are site visits to Flixton Island Mesolithic excavations at Star Carr and Flixton Carrs Wetland Project; also to Barwick in Elmet Iron Age Fort near Leeds. For details, go to the national HODS programme at <http://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/directory>

THOTH: The Ancient Egyptian God of Wisdom

Lesley Jackson, former ERAS treasurer has researched and written a book entitled THOTH: The History of the Ancient Egyptian God of Wisdom. I have asked Helen Fenwick to write a short review of it for the next ERAS News, but meanwhile if you are into Egyptology, Waterstones stocks the book and the publisher is Avalonia www.avaloniabooks.co.uk

Conisbrough Castle Improvements

CBA Yorkshire has announced that exciting improvements are to go ahead at Conisbrough Castle. £900,000 of Heritage Lottery Funding has been given to the £1.1m project to be run by Doncaster Council in partnership with English Heritage. A new visitor centre and other improvements will enhance the visitor experience and encourage greater community use by people of all ages.

It is your editor's view, though not necessarily the official view of ERAS, that wonderful though the new visitor centre will be, we should be spending less money on a period about which we know so much, and more money on things like radiocarbon dating, environmental research, Lidar and wetland conservation, in order to increase our knowledge of the earlier, prehistoric periods, about which we know relatively little, apart from a few spectacular sites.

Editor

SNIPPETTS OF SIGNIFICANCE ...

Rachel Pope – On research -

Students now have access to data sets never before imagined possible. Don't be afraid to be wrong. Go and do it and don't be afraid of the data throwing up odd associations.

Tim Champion – On the Iron Age -

Too much research is based on what we expect to find. We need to challenge our chronologies by more radiocarbon dating, which ought to be routine.

Ester Oras – On building a methodology for research –

No artifact is ever by itself – it is always set in its social background.

Graham Myers – On surveying a Heritage at Risk site -

So let's face it, it isn't where we all thought it was.

Michael Ann Bevevino – On St Patrick -

... if he existed he was probably a bit of a political figure.

Lesley Jackson, on how to be the new ERAS treasurer –

I won't frighten you, by explaining all the 'Financial Year End' stuff yet. Oh dear!

ERAS News - BACK ISSUES ALL NOW ON WEBSITE

Dave Clarke, ERAS's website officer, has now put all the back issues of the newsletter, going back to the 1970s, on the ERAS website www.eras.org.uk. This is a good resource, for students and researchers, although it is not yet fully indexed. There are some quite substantial articles and lecture summaries, from when Valerie Fairhurst was editor, and she was more dedicated and determined than myself, at taking lecture notes or getting summaries from lecturers.

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Visibility of Archaeological Features on Clay Lands



Rod Mackey noticed this clay filled ditch, exposed in the roadside bank at the Skidby/Cottingham roundabout at the top of Harland way, Cottingham, where the Beverley to Willerby road widening works are ongoing and the fields at each side are being cut into. The clayey soil ditch-fill showed up well against the clay background, but only because it was just starting to dry out and shrink slightly after machine excavation. However, the ditch-fill is very much like the background soil, and such features do not usually show up on geophysical surveys.

Rod has pointed out that this is an example of the dangers of an over reliance on geophysical surveys, when planning the route of major pipelines across clay soil areas, such as Holderness. We had the same problem of geophysical invisibility on Fiona Wilson's farm site at Arram, a few years ago, when a resistivity survey showed no evidence of the many features exposed during the subsequent excavation, as shown below.



ERAS DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wed 19 Sept.	Reports Meeting (a round-up of recent field work in the region).
Wed 3 Oct.	Field Studies meeting at Beverley.
Wed 17 Oct.	The Roman pottery kilns at Market Rasen, Lincs: some thoughts on landscapes of production. Ian Rowlandson - Freelance ceramic researcher.
Wed 7 Nov.	Field Studies meeting at Beverley.
Wed 21 Nov.	Olive oil and wine production in North Africa. Matthew Hobson - University of Leicester.
Wed 5 Dec.	Field Studies meeting at Beverley.
Wed 19 Dec.	Fin Cop Hillfort – Archaeology of a massacre? Jim Brightman - Archaeological Research Services Ltd
Wed 16 Jan.	Aspects of burial archaeology in Yorkshire. Dr. Malin Holst – University of York / York Osteoarchaeology
Wed 6 Feb	Field Studies meeting, Beverley
Wed 20 Feb.	Perspectives on ancient East Yorkshire: the archaeology of the Ganstead to Asselby Pipeline. Patrick Daniel – Network Archaeology
Wed 6 Mar	Field Studies meeting, Beverley
Wed 20 Mar	The East coast water pipeline excavation. Oliver Cooper, Northern Archaeological Associates
Wed 3 April	Field Studies meeting, Beverley
Wed 17 April	AGM at 7.0pm, followed by lecture at 7.30pm Where East meets West: Iron Age brooches from Yorkshire and Wales. Sophie Adams, University of Leicester

Lectures in Room S1, Hull University, Wilberforce Building, Cottingham Rd., Hull. 7.30pm. Members free, visitors £1.
Field Studies meetings are at 7.30pm at St. Nicholas Community Centre, Holmechurch Lane, Beverley.
Contact Graham Myers on 07815 088573 for further details of Field Studies

I would like to join ERAS / renew my membership.

Name.....

Address.....

..... Tel

Email (please write clearly)

I enclose a cheque made payable to ERAS for £.....
£5 (fulltime student rate, please state course and year).....
£15 Ordinary member £20 Family member

Please return form and cheque to the treasurer
Mrs Kate Dennett, 455 Chanterlands Ave., Hull. HU5 4A