

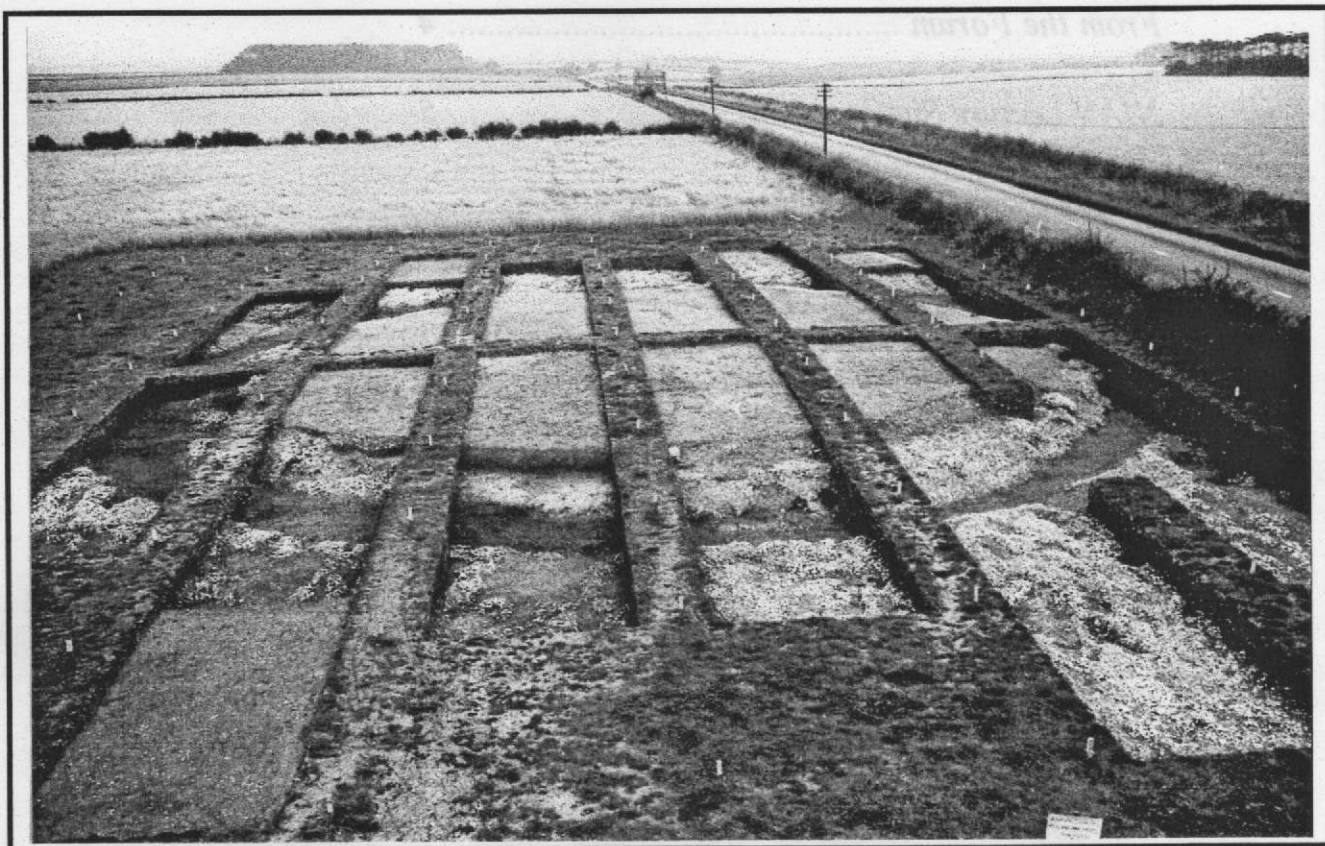
# *ERAS News*

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*EAST RIDING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY*

*No. 65 November 2006*

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*Walkington Wold barrow under excavation, 1967.*

*Photo: Rod Mackey*

*Kinsey Cave ♦ National Ice Age Network ♦ Empurion, Catalonia  
Local News ♦ Agriculture ♦ Questionnaire ♦ Walkington Wold ♦ Diary Dates*

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# *ERAS Local News ...*

## **PAM CARTWRIGHT**

Sincere apologies to Pam Cartwright of Burton Agnes for missing her off the list of new committee members in the last newsletter. Pam graduated from the part time archaeology degree course in July and has since been doing some commercial archaeology work. We hope she will enjoy serving on the ERAS committee this year.

## **MRS ALICE HAMILTON**

We were sorry to hear of the death, in August, of Mrs Hamilton, at the age of 87. Mrs Hamilton owned Weldon's Plantation near Winestead, and was a keen user of dowsing rods to locate various features on her land. In the 1980s Hull and East Riding Museum carried out an excavation on her land, after she had found a large number of Iron Age potsherds whilst putting in fence posts. The work, led by Dave Crowther, and supported by several ERAS members, uncovered part of a ditch (possibly Iron Age) alongside a pit alignment. After the main excavation was finished, Ray Ketch and the late Angus Smith continued working on the site, for several years. Archaeologists were always warmly welcomed and given much support by Mrs Hamilton and her family. She cared very much about the environment (before it was fashionable to do so), planting many trees on her land and digging and maintaining a large pond. I went down to see her earlier in the year and will always remember her, just having a rest from gardening, sitting in a wheelbarrow, laughing, with her beloved Jack Russell terriers yapping excitedly around her.

## **ANGUS SMITH'S BOOKS**

ERAS would like to thank Angus Smith's widow, Dot, for giving many of Angus's archaeology and history books to the society, together with a level which Angus had used at Winestead. The books are currently in Helen's office at the University and some will go into the society's collection at the Brynmor Jones Library, while those which are duplicates will probably be offered for sale to members. All ERAS members can obtain a reader's ticket from the University library, on presentation of identification and their ERAS membership card at the library reception desk.

## **BEVERLEY TREASURE HOUSE**

The combined museum, library and archive, to be known as the Treasure House is due to open in January. The opening exhibition will include many items acquired via the Portable Antiquities Scheme, which have never been displayed before, together with relevant items loaned from the Yorkshire Museum and Hull and East Riding Museum. When conservation is complete the cache of Iron Age weapons from the area, recently found by

metal detectorists, will also be displayed. Archaeological items and archives from within the old Beverley Borough District and from the Goole and Howden area will routinely be kept at the Treasure House, whereas those relating to other parts of the county will remain at Sewerby Hall or Hull and East Riding Museum. The database for the collections will be accessible from terminals in the large reading room on the ground floor of the new building.

## **WIN TWO YEARS FREE MEMBERSHIP**

The committee would like to have your views on what other activities you would like ERAS to run, apart from the monthly lecture series. More museum or site visits? Training courses? Informal work projects? Geophysics opportunities? We would also like to know what you think about the social side of ERAS. Are we friendly enough and what would you prefer in the way of social events? Even if you don't usually come to social events (especially if you don't, as we obviously haven't got it right if you don't turn up) we are asking you to fill in the enclosed form and return it to Paul Brayford, anonymously if you wish. At the Christmas lecture, there will be a prize draw for all those who have returned a form with their name on. One person will win two years free membership, with a second prize of one year free.

## **CHANGES AT WAERC**

After a break of three years, Dr Malcolm Lillie has taken on the directorship of the Wetland and Environmental Research Centre, based within the Geography Department at the University of Hull.

## **ARRAM SKULL FRAGMENT**

A second sample from the human skull fragment, found last year, has failed to produce enough collagen for dating, however we are hoping to submit the fragment, for further assessment, to confirm the species, as it appears to be remarkably sturdy. There will be an Arram update article in the next newsletter.

## **NEW DEVELOPMENT CONTROL OFFICER**

Welcome to Hannah Saxton, who has replaced Chris Dyer at the SMR. She will be dealing with the archaeological implications of planning applications.

## **ITS THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN**

It will help our treasurer and save on our postage costs if you send off your 2007 subscription renewal, next month, using the form on the back page. Even better, you could pay by direct debit which Lesley can easily arrange for you.

Editor

## ***FROM THE FORUM ...***

The Humber Archaeology Forum, which meets two or three times a year in Beverley, is a good meeting point for the exchange of news and views. Representatives of commercial archaeology companies, educational establishments, community archaeological organisations, museums and archives as well as independent professional archaeologists, are welcome to attend. This page gives some of the news from the last meeting

### **PLANS FOR RIVER FLOOD DEFENCES AND CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT**

Dave Evans of the Humber Sites and Monuments Record Office reported that the Environment Agency is looking at ways to improve river defences and ease the risk of flash flooding. With rising sea levels, low lying areas such as Cottingham, Beverley, Leven and Gilberdyke, might face periodic inundation and major flooding could be expected in the whole of the River Hull valley at least once a century and more if the rate of climate change is greater. The range of options includes the strengthening of existing defences and the realignment of others.

This defence work could in itself be a threat to the archaeological record, in terms of both known and potential sites of bridges, millraces and jetties etc. Staff at the Humber Sites and Monuments Record Office are working with the Environment Agency to implement a sensible policy with regard to the archaeological remains in the region, should any work be deemed necessary.

Catchment plans are also being proposed to regulate the abstraction of water, for both agricultural purposes and for urban demand. Attempts are being made to determine the maximum level of abstraction that current water levels can bear.

Consultations on other ongoing developments such as the Shore Line Management Plans and the proposals for the impoundment of the River Hull had not yet been received for consultation by the Humber SMR

### **ARCHAEOLOGY AND FARM MANAGEMENT SCHEMES**

New schemes for the management of archaeology and the environment on farmland have recently been introduced, funded through DEFRA, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. There are several entry levels to the scheme The Farm Environmental Plan (FEP) is a structured survey identifying and assessing the condition of all environmental and archaeological features, on the land concerned and is a prerequisite for entry to the Higher Level Stewardship scheme. Under the scheme, land on which there is evidence of

archaeological features may be taken out of arable production thus helping to prevent further damage, without financial loss to the farmer.

The general aims are to

- Conserve wildlife (biodiversity)
- Maintain and enhance landscape quality and character
- Protect the historic environment and natural resources
- Promote public access and understanding of the Countryside

Secondary aims include genetic conservation and flood management. Incentives also include grants for farmers to restore traditional hedges and water meadows and to maintain high water levels in order to protect organic archaeological evidence. It remains to be seen whether the schemes are sustainable.

DEFRA is already getting many applications for these grants and while some aspects are good news for the preservation of archaeological evidence, others are not. On the down side, Energy Crop Schemes are also being promoted by the government and these can be harmful to the preservation of archaeological evidence. For example, the planting of elephant grass or willow for short rotation coppicing can lead to dewatering of classic wetlands, due to the large root system involved. A wetland environment is so important for the preservation of evidence in the form of timber, leather, insects and macro-botanical remains.

### **NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The last year has seen a wave of new applications for windfarms, and their associated infrastructure – a dozen or so to date; most of these are proposals for land-based turbines, but there have also been some off-shore. There are also likely to be several new gas pipelines in the next few years.

### **NEW POST FOR IAN PANTER**

Ian Panter, formerly Scientific Advisor with English Heritage at York is now Head of Conservation with York Archaeological Trust.

### **GANSTEAD – ASSELBY PIPELINE**

Over the past seven months, Network Archaeology has carried out 110 evaluations and 22 open area excavations on both new and known sites in advance of the new gas pipeline. Sites examined include two square barrows, Bronze Age dykes on Walkington Wold, new Iron Age and Romano-British ladder settlements, a Roman roadside settlement west of the Wolds and a Romano-British pottery production site near Howden. Funding is by National Grid and a large amount of post-excavation work is anticipated.

Editor

## Lecture Summary:

# The National Ice Age Network

Dr Jenni Chambers, October 2006

Dr Jenni Chambers of the National Ice Age Network (NIAN) gave an excellent lecture which included an overview of the organization, an explanation of what the term 'Ice Age' means, a survey of key sites in Britain, an explanation of the relationship between aggregates extraction and Ice Age archaeology and finally, a summary of the evidence from Yorkshire with specific reference to the East Riding.

NIAN is based at four centres in England, at the Universities of Leicester, London, Southampton and Birmingham, where Dr. Chambers is based. It is an Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund initiative, jointly administered by English Heritage and English Nature. NIAN seeks to strengthen contacts and create an inclusive and supportive network for everyone interested in the Ice Age. This includes those in the quarry industry, as well as academics, school children and the general public. The initiative focuses on the Quaternary or Pleistocene (Ice Age) remains to be found in England's sand and gravel quarries, including sediments containing fossils relating to past environments as well as archaeological evidence for some of the country's earliest human inhabitants.

NIAN is particularly interested in past climates (as shown by mollusc and insect evidence), past landscapes, past ecologies (from pollen, plant and vertebrate evidence) and human history. The Quaternary Era is characterised by regular and dramatic changes in the climatic conditions. At present there are thought to have been 21 glaciations during the last 2.6 million years. At other times the climate was at least as warm as today, and sometimes three or four degrees warmer. The glaciations could start over quite short periods of time (about 1000 years) but some effects could occur quickly, for example the Gulf Stream shutting down within a decade.

During the glaciations, not everywhere was covered in ice. In non-glaciated areas there were open grass landscapes exploited by cold adapted fauna such as woolly rhinoceros, woolly mammoth, bison and reindeer. Of the two major glaciations, the Anglian glaciation (c478-423,000 years ago) extended as far south as London, whilst the more recent Devensian glaciation (c20,000 years ago) reached as far south as Birmingham. In the warmer interglacial periods there was arboreal, or forest vegetation with fauna including straight-tusked elephant, hippopotamus, narrow-nosed rhinoceros, red deer and spotted hyena.

Until recently, the earliest evidence for humans (or hominins) in Britain was dated at around 500,000 years ago. However, last year artefactual evidence for human activity at 700,000 years ago was reported from the Cromer Forest bed deposits at Pakefield in Suffolk. There, around 30 worked stone flakes were found in association with the remains of extinct mammals, including a type of water vole that enabled the deposits to be dated accurately. Further, more recent finds at Happisburgh in Suffolk may be even older. At the moment, there is no evidence for the hominin who created the tools at Pakefield. It may have been *Homo heidelbergensis* (previously dated to no earlier than 600,000 years ago) or, possibly, *Homo antecessor*, discovered in Iberia in 1994 and dated to 780,000 years ago.

Evidence from 500,000 years ago onwards is more widespread. For example at Boxgrove in Surrey several thousand handaxes and flakes have been found associated with cut-marked bones and punctured shoulder blades, suggesting both hunting and butchery. Hominin fossil remains were represented by incisor teeth and a shin bone, identified as from *Homo heidelbergensis*. A find of quartzite based tools at Waverley Wood, near Coventry shows that early hominins were not restricted to flint tools. Most of the finds are on the gravel terraces of Ice Age rivers such as the Solent, Avon and Trent. However, the amount of evidence reduces the further north one travels.

*Homo heidelbergensis* was a tall (approx six feet high), robust yet gracile hominin with brains as large or larger than our own. They made teardrop shaped hand axes in what we call the Acheulian tradition. These are mostly 10-15cm long, although some much larger examples have been found. It is likely that other materials were used for tools but given the long periods of time that have elapsed, tools based on organic materials such as wood might have simply decayed away.

Around 300,000 years ago *Homo neanderthalensis* appeared in Europe. This was a short squat hominin adapted to colder conditions with short arms and legs, minimising heat loss. They had a prominent nose and brow ridge. *Homo neanderthalensis* is associated with a prepared core and flake technology known as Levallois and Mousterian handaxes. Britain lacks evidence for early human occupation between about 190,000 years ago and 60,000 years ago, possibly because sea levels had risen so much that it had become an island and was

## The National Ice Age Network (continued)

inaccessible. The build-up of ice during the early stages of the most recent glacial stage meant that sea levels dropped and Neanderthals arrived in Britain.

Few Neanderthal remains have been found in Britain but the stone tools they used are relatively abundant, with most of the finds being in sand and gravel quarries, for example in Lynford Quarry in Norfolk the remains of butchered mammoth bones surrounded by flake tools and hand axes have been found. Modern humans appear in the record around 40,000 years ago, the Neanderthals disappearing around 30,000 years ago. *Homo sapiens* used a blade based technology with a wider range of tools than previous hominins. There is also evidence of more intensive use of materials such as bone and shell.

Dr Chambers explained that the extraction of aggregates is significant to Ice Age archaeology because the large deep holes dug allow access to the Ice Age sediments. In addition to the well-known sites such as Boxgrove, Lynford and Waverley Wood, there are hundreds of sites producing archaeological and environmental evidence for the Ice Age. The sediments are of interest because the activity of river systems tends to sweep up evidence of human activity and deposit it in the sediments.

Ice Age Yorkshire is characterised by few hominin related finds. Handaxes have been found at Sewerby, Holmpton, Rossington, East Ayton, and in the Settle area. The Trent valley is the most northerly river valley with significant numbers of Lower and Middle Palaeolithic artefacts. Faunal remains of the interglacials are more common. Locally at Bielsbeck Farm, near Market Weighton an Aveley interglacial assemblage included "Ilford" mammoth, straight tusked elephant, lions, large aurochs and aurochs skeletal material. At Sewerby and Victoria Cave, Ipswichian fauna including hippopotamus bones were found. At Kirdale Cave near Kibymoorside, William Buckland found in 1821 an Ipswichian fossil hyena den with elephant, tiger, lion, three species of deer, rhinoceros, bear and hippopotamus.

From 11,000 year ago, the start of the current Holocene interglacial there is much evidence of Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic occupation of the Vale of York and the Vale of Pickering, using small blade technologies including harpoons and arrows. This includes well-known sites such as Starr Carr. NIAN's interest does not extend to sites younger than this period.

*Paul Brayford*

Contact your local 'National Ice Age Network'  
centre by email at [info@iceage.org.uk](mailto:info@iceage.org.uk) or write to:

### North & West Midlands

Birmingham Archaeology,  
University of Birmingham,  
Edgbaston,  
Birmingham,  
B15 2TT

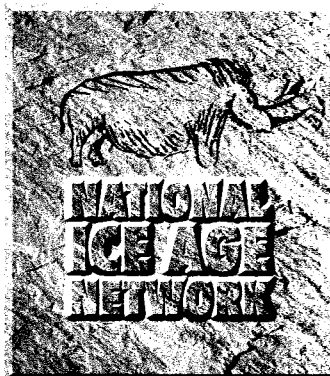
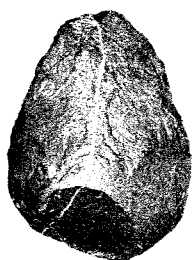
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TW20 0EX



## Lecture Summary

# Kinsey Cave, North Yorkshire

Dr. Tim Taylor, November 2005

*Your editor is lagging behind the times somewhat, with this summary of a lecture delivered in November 2005, by Dr Tim Taylor of Bradford University. However, it was felt that the work was rather unusual and worth reporting on.*

Dr. Taylor spoke about English Heritage's re-excavation of Kinsey Cave, Giggleswick, near Settle, North Yorkshire. Apparently known to cavers as 'The G spot' the cave is one of a great many in this limestone area. The site was first excavated by Kinsey Mattinson in the 1930s, resulting in the discovery of animal bones (reindeer, aurochs, lynx, wolf and bear) and human bones. One of the lynx bone has since been dated to AD 500 (the latest lynx known in Britain). A human jawbone from the cave has since been dated to the interface between the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods. Although it is now a scheduled site, the cave and its environs have, in modern times, been popular for many years with cavers and climbers. Dr. Taylor pointed out that the accessibility of the cave would have varied during different climatic periods, and when the area was forested it might have been less noticeable. It was during a visit by a Quaternary research group, that damage to the archaeology of the cave was noted and was thought to have been caused by badgers digging into the floor of the cave. A project was set up with English Heritage, in 2005, to assess the nature and extent of this damage.

Expert cave surveyors assisted with the work and Tim Taylor described squeezing into the narrowest part of the cave 'lubricated on a bed of badger excrement' (Oh, the glamour of archaeology). The aim was to clean up the floor extremely carefully, using wooden tools only, so as not to compromise any evidence in the way of bones bearing butchery marks.

Lying on top of the more compacted strata representing the material dug out by Kinsey Mattinson's original excavation, there was a trail of human bone routed out by badgers. A brown bear vertebra, found in-situ, in the narrowest part of the cave (and undated at the time of the lecture) was removed and replaced by a proxy cow bone, in order to assess how it would be affected by future badger activity. Some teeth and a bone from a horse (or horses) thought, possibly, to have been deliberately buried were also found. Tim Taylor referred to a known Roman cult involving the ritual burial of hoof and head, and pointed out that Romans may have been in the area prospecting for the mineral Galena.

It was notable that in one area, animal bone, (sheep, pig,

dog and cow) and human bone found together in fairly close proximity was all from juveniles. Bone experts identified cuts made by stone tools on both adult and infant human bones, also on animal bone, including deer. A human left ulna (lower arm) with defensive cut marks, had later been gnawed by a dog and then a mouse. Cut marks on the inner surface of a human rib, would seem to indicate filleting out of the flesh. Whether this was simply de-fleshing as part of a *post mortem* ritual or whether it indicates cannibalism is debateable. Dr. Taylor pointed out that several different types of cannibalism may have existed, citing ritual, medicinal, funerary or aggressive reasons for the practice.

The lithic material found during the excavation was all chert, rather than flint and no pottery was evident. However, potboilers (fire heated stones used to raise the temperature of water in a container) were found and it was presumed that leather bags may have been used to contain liquid for cooking.

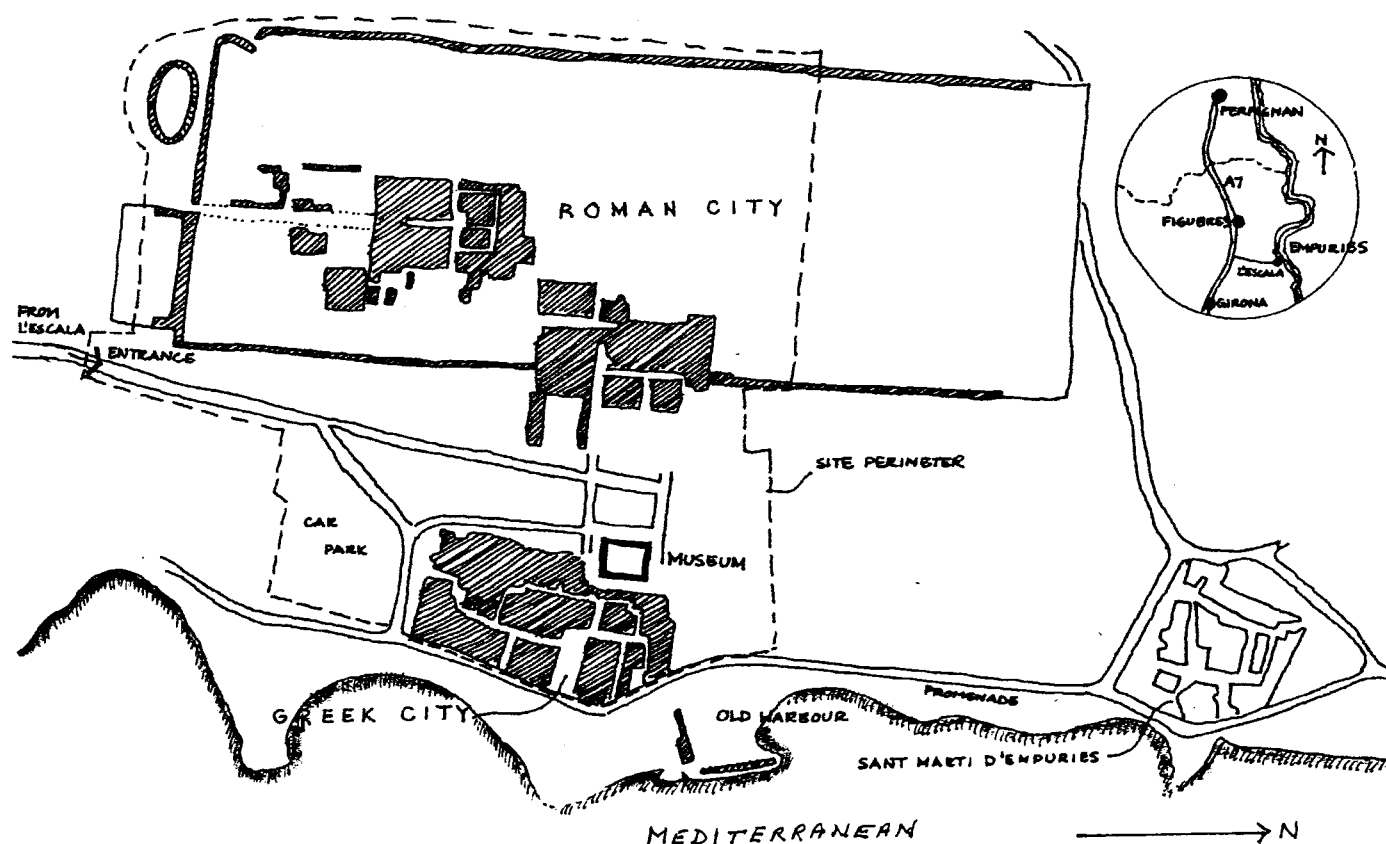
In looking at the wider implications of the findings, Dr Taylor said that he takes the view that the Neolithic period in the region came in fairly rapidly, with raiders possibly arriving via Wales and Lancashire and moving aggressively along the limestone high land, challenging the native Mesolithic population. It remains to be seen whether further work on the finds from the excavation will support this view.

Wet sieving and flotation of all the excavated material was carried out and damage was found to have been caused not only by badgers but also by rats and rabbits, cavers, climbers and metal detectorists. The work is, of course, ongoing and this lecture was given before full analysis of the results had taken place, and before all the radio-carbon dates were available.

Some of the excellent hand-drawn and coloured maps showed by Tim Taylor, detailing the complexities of Kinsey Cave and other caves in the area can be seen on Yorkshire Limestone Update & Access 2006 at [www.theleedswall.com](http://www.theleedswall.com)

Kate Dennett

# THE RUINS OF EMPURIES, CATALUNYA



*Whilst our French Forays correspondent, Lesley Jackson, has a rest between holidays, Peter Bartle has been exploring Northern Spain. He has written the following article, which should make you salivate over those archaeological holiday brochures which will soon start dropping through your letter box, as the winter approaches.*

Travel north from Girona along the A7 motorway (once the Roman Via Dolmitia) towards Figueras and head for the Costa Brava and the coastal town of L'Escala. Next to the high rise apartments, souvenir shops and tourist beaches lies the city of Empuries – 40 hectares of Greek and Roman ruins set against a backdrop of cypress trees and the Mediterranean.

The earliest settlement was established in the ninth century BC on a small isthmus now occupied by Sant Marti d'Empuries. By the seventh century BC, trading links had been established with the Etruscans, Phoenicians and Greeks, the latter establishing a colony on the mainland in the first half of the sixth century BC (the Palaia polis). As trade grew, the Greek settlers developed the colony into what became the city of Emporion (the Nea Polis) which flourished as a trading

port comparable in status to Shanghai in the early twentieth century.

During the second Punic war in 218BC, a Roman army under Scipio landed at Emporion to deny access to Hannibal's troops. Roman colonisation of the Iberian peninsula followed and in 195BC a military camp was constructed to the west of the Greek city. This was to form the nucleus of the Roman city which was built in the late first century BC. Subsequently, both Greek and Roman cities were combined physically and legally under the name of Municipium Emporiae. For two centuries, Emporiae continued to prosper until increasing competition from Girona (Gerunda) and Barcelona (Barcino) led to a decline in its importance. Finally, late in the third century AD, the whole site was abandoned and its inhabitants moved back to Sant Marti d'Empuries. Areas of the Greek city were utilised for burials and an Early Christian basilica was constructed between the fourth and seventh centuries AD.

Excavation commenced in 1908 and continues to the present day with a quarter of the site excavated so far. Profits from the 1992 Olympic games have contributed towards costs. Extensive areas of upstanding masonry





*The Greek sanctuary to Isis at Empuries.*

*Photograph: Peter Bartle*

have been uncovered and a unique feature of the site is the clear separation between the Greek and Roman cities. A wide variety of building types is represented together with public spaces and defensive works. There is a museum on site with audiovisual displays and a large collection of ceramics and Etruscan wares.

#### THE GREEK CITY

A section of the southern defensive wall remains, also a jetty built for the increasing trade after the arrival of the Romans. Religious buildings are represented by a temple to Askelapius, a sanctuary to Isis and Scapio and an Early Christian basilica. There are examples of the two basic housing types: the atrium house built around an inner courtyard and the peristyle house built around a garden. The city's infrastructure was well developed, visible remains including drainage systems, public water supply and amphorae water filters.

#### THE ROMAN CITY

Grouped around the Forum are the remains of religious, commercial and administrative buildings together with houses and shops lining one of the two principal streets which leads to the southern gateway, where wheel ruts are still visible. The gateway is well preserved and on

the adjacent wall a carved phallic symbol (not graffiti) represents strength and prosperity. Outside the walls, lie an amphitheatre and gymnasium. Later developments of the Greek atrium and peristyle house plans have been revealed, one of which has the most exceptional mosaic floors.

The opening hours of the museum are:

1 Oct – 31 May - 10.00 – 18.00 hrs

1 June – 30 Sept - 10.00 – 20.00.

(For a complete contrast, you might be interested in Salvadore Dali's museum at Figueres and his house at Cadaques which are within easy reach).

If you are interested in trade in the Mediterranean, in this period, you might like the following very readable book, with its quirky little hand drawn maps -  
Cunliffe, B. (2002) *The Extraordinary Voyage of Pytheas the Greek*. London: Penguin.

*Peter Bartle*

## *Walkington Wold*

### *Executions Re-dated*

ERAS's first large-scale excavation took place in 1967-9 on an Early Bronze Age round barrow at Walkington Wold. It was jointly directed by the late John Bartlett, Director of Hull Museums, and Rod Mackey (assistant director, Derek Brooks) and published in 1973 in Vol. 1, part 2, of *East Riding Archaeologist*.

It proved to be a very rich multi-period site. In addition to the Bronze Age funerary activity, a late Roman domestic occupation had been sited on the mound with at least one, if not two coin hoards being scattered during subsequent levelling (730 coins were recovered). In its final phase, the mound had been used as an execution site and roadside gibbet with the remains of twelve bodies, ten of which were headless and eleven separate skulls or parts of skulls scattered across the southern part of the barrow. The shallow graves, in which these bodies were casually buried, produced nothing but residual late Roman pottery, so the executions could only be attributed to that period or later.

Recent re-examination of the skeletal material by Dr. Jo Buckberry of Bradford University and Dr. Dawn Hadley of Sheffield University and the acquisition of 3 radiocarbon dates have shed fascinating new light on the Walkington executions. The radiocarbon dates alone show that they took place over a long period of time, from at least the eighth to the tenth century AD., placing them firmly within the Anglo Saxon period and not the late Roman. Re-examination of the bones has confirmed evidence for decapitation and shown that the victims were all young to middle-aged adult males (18-45 years). Dr. Buckberry hopes to submit further samples for radiocarbon dating.

The site at Walkington lies close to the boundary between two Anglo-Saxon administrative units, the 'hundreds' of Welton and Cave. It also lies between the medieval townships of Hunsley and Walkington. It is the most northerly example yet found of a separate Anglo-Saxon execution cemetery.

One interesting anecdote, not included in the published report, is worth mentioning here. On one occasion after a day's work at Walkington, we were talking in the local pub, the Dog & Duck, to Mr. Binnington, an old farm labourer, who had worked most of his life in the parish. Before we had said anything to him about decapitated bodies being found on the site, he told us that, when he was a young man, the field in which we were working was always known as 'Hell's Gate'. Could this possibly be a folk memory relating to the 10<sup>th</sup> century execution site?

Rod Mackey

## *Odds and Ends*

### **SHIPTONTHORPE PUBLICATION**

ERAS members worked on the long-term excavations, published this month under the title *Shiptonthorpe, East Yorkshire: Archaeological Studies of a Romano-British Roadside Settlement*. Over 70 people attended a very successful, local launch of the volume, which is edited by Martin Millett and published jointly by The Roman Antiquities Section of Yorkshire Archaeological Society and by ERAS. With over 35 contributors, it is a useful and wide-ranging publication. Highlights include the Roman aisled hall and details of organic remains from a water hole, leather shoes, mistletoe seeds and parts of several writing tablets. The volume (Yorkshire Archaeological Report No. 5) is available from ERAS meetings or from YAS, price £25 or £23 to ERAS or YAS members. ISBN 1 9035 6465 4

### **SWANLAND PUBLICATION**

The Swanland History Group, started by ERAS member Derek Brooks has just published the final volume of the trilogy *A New History of Swanland*. This latest volume - *The Medieval to Stuart Periods and Churches* was edited by Derek together with Shirley Dalby. This is a real achievement for the group, who have been working towards their goal for seven years. The book, priced at £7.50, is available from Swanland Post office, Swanland village shop McColls or by telephoning 01482 634863.

### **NEW SPURN PUBLICATION**

Jan Crowther is about to publish her new book *The People Along the Sand: the Spurn Peninsula and Kilnsea, a history 1800 - 2000*. Published by Phillimore and Co. Ltd., it is a hard back with colour and black and white images. ISBN 1-86077-419-9

### **INDEPENDENT ARCHAEOLOGY**

The Council for Independent Archaeology, of which ERAS is a member, is to hold its next Autumn conference in the North and is looking at the possibility of a venue in the East Riding.

### **THE GREAT WOLD VALLEY**

Researchers from Bradford University are taking a new look at the archaeologically rich Great Wold Valley, so well studied by J.R. Mortimer. Some of the excavated skulls are to be the subject of a re-dating programme and there may be some re-excavation, in an attempt to clarify the accuracy of Mortimer's stratigraphy.

### **SEWERBY EXCAVATION REPORT**

The Sewerby Cottage Farm excavation at Bridlington, carried out by On-site Archaeology is about to be published as a monograph and will be available from YAS.

Editor

## *Dates for your Diary*

- Sat 25 Nov     The Gristhorpe Man Project. Dayschool on the scientific analyses currently being carried out on a Bronze Age tree-trunk coffin burial. Dept. of Archaeological Sciences, University of Bradford. £15 including lunch. Students £12. Contact     N.D.Melton1@bradford.ac.uk
- Sat 1 Dec     Trent Valley Geoarchaeology Conference. Theme of cultural heritage and sustainability in the Trent Valley. De la Beche Theatre, British Geological Survey, Keyworth, Notts. £20 incl. lunch. Contact     enquiries@tvq.org.uk
- Sat 1 Dec     From Artefacts to Anomalies. University of Bradford. weekend celebration of research inspired by scientist Arnold Aspinall. Contact     c.p.heron@bradford.ac.uk
- Wed 20 Dec     ERAS Lecture. Mick Atha. University of York. The Wolds Research Project
- Wed 17 Jan     ERAS Lecture. Dr Ben Geary, University of Birmingham. Raised Mire Systems and the Archaeological Record.
- Sat 8 Feb     New Voices on Early Medieval Sculpture. Weekend conference at King's Manor, York. (call for papers)     web www-users.york.ac.uk/~mfr101/index.html
- Wed 21 Feb     ERAS Lecture Vicky Score     Ritual Hoards and Helmets.
- Wed 21 Mar     ERAS lecture. Yvonne Luke. Rethinking Ingleborough.
- Tues 17 April     Portable Antiquities Scheme. Discussion on archaeological and historical research using PAS data to advance knowledge of finds or the historic environment. British Museum, London. Contact     Dr M. Lewis, British Museum, London, WC1B 3DG
- Wed 18 April     AGM at 7.0pm followed by Lecture - Prof. Rosalie David. Ancient Egyptian Mummies: a resource for studying disease and everyday life.

ERAS lectures, unless otherwise stated, are held in Room S1, Wilberforce Building, Hull University, at 7.30pm. Members free, visitors £1.

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