

# *ERAS News*

---

**EAST RIDING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, No. 93 MARCH 2020**

---



*Fig. 1b. Kipling House Farm, Trench 1, towards the end of the excavation*

*Photo: Tony Hunt YAA*

---

*Local News ~ Lecture Summaries: Sheffield, Flamborough, Sutton Hoo – AGM Agenda ~  
Subscription Increase ~ New Constitution ~ Kipling House Farm ~ Citizen ~ ERAS Diary*

---

# Contents

<i>Local News</i> .....	3
<i>Book Review</i> .....	4
<i>CBA Archaeology Day</i> .....	4
<i>Lecture Summaries: Sheffield Castle, Flamborough Castle</i> .....	5
<i>Lecture Summary: Sutton Hoo</i> .....	6
<i>CITiZAN Update</i> .....	7
<i>Kipling House Farm Excavation</i> .....	8
<i>Diary Dates</i> .....	9
<i>Subscription Increase from 2021</i> .....	10
<i>Changes to the ERAS Constitution</i> .....	11
<i>AGM Notice</i> .....	14
<i>ERAS Diary</i> .....	15

Comments or contributions are always welcome.

Send to Newsletter Editor, Kate Dennett,  
455 Chanterlands Ave. Hull. HU5 4AY  
Tel. 01482 445232      katedennett@katedennett.karoo.co.uk

Other enquiries to the secretary  
Richard Coates  
8 Chestnut Ave. Beverley HU17 9RB  
coates8@coates8.karoo.co.uk

To join or renew membership see form on last page, or go to the website.

To enquire about your subscription status contact  
Colin Parr, 32 Woodgate Rd, Hull.      cparrateras@outlook.com

**[www.eras.org.uk](http://www.eras.org.uk)**

**Follow us on facebook**

**Send us a tweet      @eastridingarch**

ERAS is REGISTERED CHARITY No. 500878

## **ERAS LOCAL NEWS . . .**

### ***Historic Environment Record***

There have been changes at the HER, formerly known as the SMR (Sites and Monuments Record) at the Old School, Northumberland Ave, Hull . In charge now, the new Principal Archaeologist is Richard Newman, who replaced Lucy McCarthy (who replaced Dave Evans when he retired).

### ***Visit to Ireland***

Our proposed weekend visit to Ireland in the spring has been abandoned as we did not get enough people to make it worthwhile. Part of the problem was the price, but details might not have reached everyone, as you might not be on our list of people who allow us to contact you by email. See below.

### ***If you want to get emails from us ...***

Only about half our membership has filled in and returned the form giving us permission, as required by the new data protection rules, to send you emails. If you want to receive these news updates and think you do not currently receive them, please email Colin on [cparrateras@outlook.com](mailto:cparrateras@outlook.com)

### ***Our Next Publication***

Volume 18 of *East Riding Archaeologist* is in the final stages of prep and should be ready soon, so to be sure of your free copy, remember to renew your subs for 2020.

### ***Improving our ERAS archive***

If the proposed changes are passed at the AGM next month, we are hoping to have a person whose job it will be to put our archives in better order and establish future guidelines. We have a large collection of newsletters, membership cards, dinner menus, minutes, accounts, correspondence, excavation reports, photographs and press cuttings housed with the ERYC library service, as well as a copy of each of our own publications housed with our secretary, but all this needs checking so that we know exactly what is present and what is missing.

### ***University Archaeology Courses***

I think you would be surprised at how many of the professional archaeologists working in this area did their archaeology degree at Hull University. In a tough climate for Higher Education, with reduced student numbers due to a demographic dip, the University of Hull has suspended recruitment to its Archaeology programmes for the time being. Considering the international importance of the archaeology of this region, this is rather sad, though I suppose, inevitable.

### ***Field Studies Group***

Michaela Stones tells me that the group is continuing with the labelling and categorisation of pottery from a Romano British kiln in Skiff Lane, near Holme on Spalding Moor, a project which they have been working on recently. All the thousands of pieces, are rejects, thrown away at the site or found in the flue of the kiln. Anyone can come along and help. You don't have to be a pottery expert or even experienced, as you will be shown what to do. The group meets at 7.30pm on the first Weds of every month at St Nicholas Community Centre, Holmechurch Lane, Beverley.

### ***Annual General Meeting***

AGMs can be a bit boring! We know that. And you have to be there for 7pm instead of 7.30pm, but your committee works really hard to keep things running and it would be good to think the membership appreciates this. ERAS is remarkably successful, with membership steadily increasing towards what were the record numbers in the 1990s - Pretty good in an age of social media and fleeting interests. So please come to the AGM.

**(Please check the website, in case we have to do a last minute CoronaVirus cancellation)**

### ***Queensgate Allotments, Bridlington***

Richard Myerscough reports that excavation on two areas with possible features shown up by our resistivity survey at the allotments has revealed postholes, but there was no evidence to date these features. Another resistivity survey is to be carried out prior to more investigations in November, after the main growing season is over.

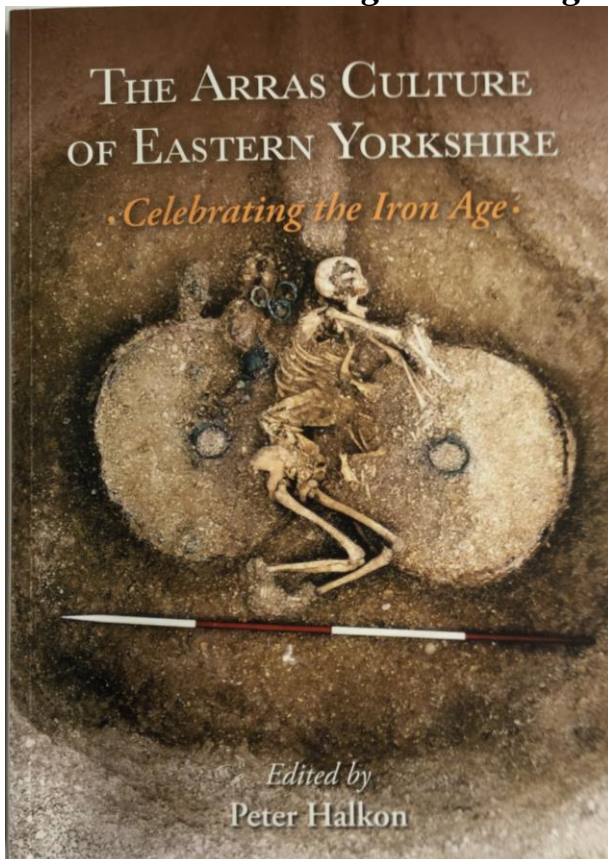
### ***Introducing Chalky***

The committee is looking at using an image of one of the Iron Age chalk figurines known from the Yorkshire Wolds, as part of a logo and 'branding' for ERAS. John Parks has produced the mascot pictured below and affectionately named Chalky, to use on our publicity stall at events.



*Editor*

## ***The Arras Culture of Eastern Yorkshire: Celebrating the Iron Age***



The proceedings of the Royal Archaeological Institute Annual Conference, held in York in 2017 to celebrate the bicentenary of the Iron Age discoveries at Arras, have been published, by Oxbow as a volume, edited by Peter Halkon, dedicated to Ian and Sheelagh Stead and in memory of Rod Mackey. Though a little pricey, with contributions by so many Iron Age specialists and lots of full colour maps and illustrations, this is certainly a book worth buying, especially if you want pre-publication details of the latest finds by MAP, from Pocklington and the Humber area. Apart from two unfortunate instances of the authors muddling the left and right hand sides of skeletons on page 22, this book still makes an excellent addition to studies of the pre-history of this area.

The big questions about Iron Age burial customs in East Yorkshire and the links with continental Europe, still remain, but this book provides a healthily wide scale perspective, with a contribution from Manuel Fernández-Götz on more modern perceptions of the term '*migration*', and a very useful overview of southern funerary traditions from Timothy Champion, this latter article listing a surprisingly large number of Iron Age inhumations. Fraser Hunter's chapter, '*A Northern View of Arras: or, we have chariots too*'

is particularly readable. Chapters by Melanie Giles, Victoria Green and Pedro Peixoto and by Yvonne Inall both show how the exploration and analysis of small details can be used well to propose a wider scenario. Substantial chapters also come from Peter Halkon, Mandy Jay and Janet Montgomery on isotopic analysis, Mark Stephens and Paula Ware, John Dent, Robert Hurford, Anna Lewis and Helen Chittock. Overall, a book to be recommended and one to leave the reader with much hope for the future of Iron Age studies in this region.

*Paperback, 199pp, photos & diagrams in colour.*  
ISBN 978-1-78925-258-3 Price £34.20

### ***CBA Archaeology Day, York***

Held at York St. Johns University earlier this year, it was fairly well attended and there were some excellent presentations. CBA has changed the name of this annual event from 'Symposium' to the simpler term 'Archaeology Day' (a good move as far as I am concerned) and I hope this will encourage more people to attend such events, especially as they give such good networking opportunities.

Adam Booth showed work from many sites, including Whitby Abbey, Grosmont Priory and Elsecar, to explain how he uses radar in archaeology. Showing animations, running through features at increasing depths, he described the process as rather like using an echo-sounder. He stressed that some of these results were attained through the dedication of his students in running the data through various processes. Richard Coates has extracted a promise from Adam, to come and talk to ERAS next year. Steve Sherlock gave us a fascinating, though breakneck-speed journey through his work at Streethouse, and other sites in the Cleveland area – a good example of what a tireless enthusiast can produce by using a combination of professional and volunteer workers. Keith Boughey talked on Bronze Age grave goods and Eric Houlder, in a talk on researching a clay pipe factory, showed how modern technology can be used to get more out of old photographs.

Having all the 'non-archaeology' presentations together in the morning (AGM, digital versus traditional publishing, trauma recovery programmes) I felt was a mistake and left the audience just wanting to hear the results of actual archaeology. Sorry CBA. The afternoon was excellent.

*Editor*

*ERAS Lecture Summary*  
***Excavations at Sheffield Castle***  
*Milica Rajic (Wessex Archaeology) Nov. 2019*

This huge and complex long-term project in the centre of Sheffield involved many volunteers and organisations. Independent work on parts of the site was carried out at various times in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, indeed our own John Bartlett did some early investigations, but the Wessex Archaeology work was the first large scale excavation, planned to answer specific questions. The site lies close to a loop in the R. Don and beneath modern market buildings which were demolished in 2008, to make way for development. The castle was built on low ground, surrounded by spurs of higher land, with a moat on the South, East and West sides, while the River Don formed the defence on the North side. It must have dominated this area, at the confluence of the Rivers Don and Sheaf. In order to show the audience which parts of the castle she was referring to in her talk, Milica, brought with her, a model of a typical medieval castle.

The original Norman timber castle was destroyed by fire and was rebuilt in stone. Constant refurbishment and extension followed and it is known that in the late 14<sup>th</sup> century, it belonged to the 6<sup>th</sup> Earl of Shrewsbury. Mary Queen of Scots is reputed to have spent much time there, although there is apparently no evidence to support this. The castle was demolished in the civil war and the site became a stone quarry. Old maps show that in 1700 there was a bowling green with orchards and hospital gardens adjacent. By the 19<sup>th</sup> century, a cementation furnace and other buildings associated with the steel industry had taken over and in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, prior to the modern market, the site was occupied by slaughter houses.

A trench across the estimated position of the moat revealed the sloping floor of the slaughter house and another trench over the ditch revealed the remains of a cutlery works and crucibles. Medieval cobbled surfaces (radiocarbon dated to 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> century) were found close to the 19<sup>th</sup> century cementation furnaces. The moat, the earliest feature on the site, appeared to be some distance away from the castle walls and a profile of its east arc was obtained by excavating within steel shoring and by putting down boreholes. The area was found to be on a natural boundary of the geological clay with a rock stratum. The origin of the moat was thought to be a palaeochannel but each section was of different construction. The west moat is on the line of modern Waingate. It was suggested that the blue clay exposed when investigating the motte and

baillie had been piled on top of the motte to make it difficult to climb. There was evidence of walls and a staircase from the same phase as the gatehouse. No Anglo-Saxon structure was found, although pottery of this period was present. In general the quantity and range of finds was huge, and it was policy that no Post-Medieval material be retained. I think it is true to say that for most of the ERAS audience, the very existence of a castle at Sheffield was a revelation.

*ERAS Lecture Summary,*  
***Flamborough Castle***  
*Ed Dennison, (EDAS) Sept. 2019*  
*(part of the Round-Up of Work in the Region)*

Ed Dennison of Ed Dennison Archaeological Services (EDAS) told us that in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the remains of Flamborough Castle, were popularly known as *The Danish Tower*, as it was thought that the Vikings had established a settlement there. Originally a domestic manorial site, probably dating to the 1140s, it later developed into a fortified complex, of which little now survives above ground. In 2017, EDAS undertook a survey of this large scheduled site, prior to refurbishment of the ruins. Ed painted us a lively picture of the characters involved in the occupation of the site over the centuries, which during the Medieval period was the Constable family. These include Sir Marmaduke Constable, who died in 1518 after reputedly choking on a frog which had hopped into his wineglass. His son, Sir Robert Constable was a hot-headed individual who thought he was above the law and took part in the 1536 Pilgrimage of Grace. He was captured, executed and hung from Hull's Beverley Gate on the orders of Henry VIII. Once the Constable estates were forfeited the complex fell into decay, but the family was restored in Elizabethan times. The Flamborough site was later bought by the Strickland family.

The upstanding ruins comprise a short length of walling with a U-shape plan. The walls are 1.3m thick with a plinth at the base, rising to 2- 3 storeys. Remains of the former basement vault can be seen as well as part of a garderobe chute. It had been used in modern times to shelter cattle, but has now been refurbished with what is known as a soft wall capping, comprising turf secured in place with bamboo sticks. The 'tower' field lies between two areas of development which obscure some of the layout, but Ed's detailed earthwork survey has revealed gardens and numerous structures based around two courtyards. An information board, visible from the war memorial, has been erected on the site.

## ERAS Lecture Summary

### Sutton Hoo – ‘A drama in seven acts’

Prof. Martin Carver, Jan 2020

*In the late 1980s, ERAS members on a visit to the Sutton Hoo site, part of which was being re-excavated, were shown around by Martin Carver. Apart from two open graves in the cemetery area, with body stains in the sand, there was nothing to be seen except the curve of the remaining large mounds nearby. But such was Martin's skill as an orator, we came away feeling we had seen the ship burial and all the artefacts before our very eyes. His excellent lecture in Jan. 2020, proved he has lost none of his skill. (Editor).*

Prof. Carver described how this well known and very well documented site in the grounds of Col. and Mrs Pretty's house in Suffolk, was first excavated at her request, in 1938 by local archaeologist Basil Brown. Mounds 2, 3 and 4 had already been robbed, but artefacts showed they were not Bronze Age, as expected, but Anglo-Saxon. The next year, when Mound 1 was dug, Brown who had a flair for understanding stratigraphy recognised from the long the rows of rivets and marks of ribs, that a ship had been buried in the mound. Many visitors from Cambridge University and the Pre-Historic Society then came to help with the excavation, which revealed over 200 items - the regalia of a wealthy, cultured person. Objects of horn, iron, silver and gold, some with millefiore work, included shoulder clasps, a helmet and a sceptre, as well as weapons, cauldrons, and textiles. Mrs Pretty donated all the finds to the British Museum.

In the 1980s Prof. Carver was involved in an evaluation for a project designed to answer, specific questions about the site, and to set it in a wider context. These and later excavations helped establish and clarify the concept of 7<sup>th</sup> century Anglo-Saxon kingdoms. In his ERAS lecture Prof. Carver divided this complex drama of a site into seven ‘acts’, showing a gradual shift in culture. 1. The Anglo-Saxon family cemetery; 2. The cremations in bronze bowls; 3. The horse and rider; 4. The ship over the robbed chamber; 5. The intact mound with burial and grave goods; 6. The bed burial; 7. The execution site.

Cremations were considered to be the earliest features, though the ‘family cemetery’ area had cremations and inhumations side by side. (The mounds were, of course, also full of non-stratified, residual evidence of Neolithic and Bronze Age activity.)

Dating to c AD590, the ‘**Horse and Rider**’, in mound 17 had not been robbed because, by good fortune, the attempted robber trench had been dug into the small space between the two adjacent graves. A young man of about 25 years old had been buried in a tree-trunk coffin in a grave together with a cauldron, lamb chops, a shield, weapons, a saddle and gilded horse gear. Immediately adjacent, in its own grave, was a 14h horse. Mound 2 had contained the ‘**ship over a robbed chamber**’. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century two bushels of scattered ‘nails’ (ships rivets) from this area had been taken to the local blacksmiths to be reprocessed. During the new project, samples taken for chemical analysis from the base of a chamber were able to show where the person had been buried. The chamber was beneath what had (seen in retrospect) been a small ship.

Mound 1, the ‘**intact mound with burial and grave goods**’ was the most spectacular and well-known part of the site with its ship outline, its grand regalia and many different textiles. Some of these fabrics were able to be reconstructed by hand for display in the later visitor centre. The burial was dated to cAD625. In mound 14, a ‘**bed burial**’, contained a female grave. This robbed high-status burial, possibly Redwald's queen, included a couch and was dated toward the end of the 7<sup>th</sup> century ie the period of conversion to Christianity and may have been intended to show the importance of family, of continuity and of using the old traditions to mark the landscape

The ‘**execution site**’ included deviant and multiple burials of people killed by violence. There was possible evidence for a gallows pit and postholes. It appeared to be a place of burial, for the victims of Christian kings of the 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> century.

In summary, Prof. Carver described the Sutton Hoo site as a window on political change, ie a time of transition from pagan beliefs to Christianity. The terminal date for the main grave burials is c675 and the site seems to capture the first real investment into Christianity. After discussing the names of East Anglian pagan kings as possible candidates for the various burials, he noted that 75 years or 2-3 generations after the introduction of a new religion is, in general terms, the time when people start to fully invest in that new culture. Eleven mounds have been excavated and six have still not been examined. It was excellent to be given an overview of such a well known site and any errors in these three lecture summaries are entirely due to my hurried and rather patchy note-taking. Ed ,

# REPORT FROM CITiZAN

By Sam Griffiths

In early 2019 the Coastal and Intertidal Zone Archaeological Network received a second round of funding to carry on pivotal work training volunteers to record and monitor *at-risk* heritage around the UK coast (as reported in the newsletter in March 2019). After presenting to the society back in September (2019) on our new project, The Humberside Discovery Programme, we have embarked on a new round of training, recording and monitoring across the East Riding which will continue into 2020.

Back in September we were just a few weeks away from our first training events of the new round in the Humberside Programme. First, we visited the Saltfleetby-Theddlethorpe Nature Reserve over in Lincolnshire and recorded a series of Second World War coastal defenses with a team of volunteers. This will be part of further work at the site in coming years to try to understand more of the area's largely forgotten 20<sup>th</sup> century history.



Next we turned our attentions to Hull. We had a very successful two days recording and updating features along the riverside area of the city from Scale Lane up to North Bridge. This covers one of CITiZAN's key themes, *Coastal Industries*, and we added a series of new features to our Coastal Map which continues to build as an open-access reference and research tool for archaeology and the public. We now have a further group of trained volunteers monitoring and recording along the coast and adding to our ever-expanding database.

As part of our new endeavors we are also setting up a series of Low-Tide-Trails, utilizing and expanding on the new Natural England, England Coast Path due to be launched in 2020. This will eventually go live as self-guided walks around the coast of the UK and will be trialed throughout early

2020 as guided walks (more below). As part of this we've developed trails in Hull, Paull, Spurn, Flamborough, Hessle (and the Humber Bridge) and will be adding to these over the coming months

This provides a great opportunity for the wider archaeological community and the public to engage with our county's coastal heritage. Some of the trial dates for 2021 have already been announced through our events page including four more exciting opportunities to join the Active Coast team from the East Riding County Council. 2021 promises to be a busy year across the East Riding for the Humberside Discovery Programme team. As well as our own research and monitoring work we will be conducting training and events at Spurn Point with the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust; Fraisthorpe Beach, Bridlington; Flamborough Lighthouse/Headland with the Active Coast Team; as well as many events over the Humber in North, North East and eastern Lincolnshire.



You can keep track of all this progress and our upcoming events through [our website](#), social media and by signing up to the [Humberside Discovery E-Newsletter](#).

CITiZAN is a MOLA (Museum of London Archaeology) project, run in partnership with the CBA (Council for British Archaeology) and the Nautical Archaeology Society. The new three-year project is possible owing to generous support from the National Lottery Heritage Fund and the Lloyds Registry, with additional support from the National Trust, Historic England and The Crown Estate.

Sam Griffiths

## *Excavation of a Ring Fort at Kipling House Farm, Middleton on the Wolds, East Yorkshire*

### *Results of the 2019 season.*

*Peter Halkon and James Lyall*

The main aim of the 2019 season (2-18 Sept) was to excavate the large ring ditch and associated postholes at the centre of the enclosure detected by geophysical survey. A trench 25x25m (Trench A) was opened using a 360° mechanical excavator over the large circular feature and over the square enclosure (Trench C). In Trench A, after the surface was trowelled, a UAV photograph by Tony Hunt revealed not only the foundation trench of the large round house, but also a further roundhouse gully, 14m in diameter which had not been visible in the geophysical survey or as a crop mark in aerial photography in the north east sector of the trench. It was clearly later in date (Fig. 1a, below)



The geophysical survey had detected large postholes forming a corridor and ring towards the eastern side of the largest round house. Initially not all of these were clearly visible, as a thick layer of chalky soil had been deposited over the earlier features prior to the construction of the later round house. The ring gully of the larger circular feature had been cut into the chalk and had been remodelled on at least one occasion presumably to replace timbers which had probably formed a wooden wall comprising upright planks, similar to construction methods used in the large round house at Paddock Hill, Thwing. There was an inner ring of deeply cut smaller post holes 0.5m in diameter, around 2.3m apart, c. 4.5m inside the outer ring gully (Fig. 1b, front cover). Some of these contained carbonised timber. The easternmost large

postholes forming the “corridor” or entrance porch were half-sectioned and found to contain at least three discrete re-cuts. Some had clearly contained substantial posts. Most of the finds from the excavation came from these post holes, including animal bone and pottery resembling that found in the previous season. Several larger decorated sherds, including the rim of a large vessel decorated with fingertip impressions, paralleled pottery from the well-known later Bronze Age/early Iron Age hilltop enclosure of Staple Howe.

Some postholes also contained burnt daub bearing the impressions of timber. The large posts were initially thought to relate to the largest of the ring gullies, however they are not directly central to it, being offset to the North East. Either they belong to a different structure or were deliberately offset. The doorposts of the smaller roundhouse were half sectioned and were close to and on the same orientation as the entrance to the large round house. In the south-east corner of Trench A, a D shaped feature was revealed in the aerial photography comprising a series of posts and slots. This was cleaned and recorded but not excavated and so its purpose remains unknown. In Trench C, a section was cut across the North Eastern ditch of the square enclosure (Figs. 2b & c, back cover). This was almost 3m wide and 1.25 m deep and had once had a chalk bank on its inside, which had been pushed into the ditch. The ditch had been recut on a number of occasions and had remained open into the Roman period, as the latest phase, a brown fill, contained pieces of Roman pottery and part of a jet bangle. Several pieces of bone and a tooth were also recovered which await identification. Drone photography by Tony Hunt earlier in the summer showed a regular square enclosure inside the outer enclosure. The purpose of this structure still remains unknown and a metal detector survey failed to recover any Roman coins or other items which would have been expected if the feature was a Romano-Celtic shrine. After harvest in August 2020 there will be a further excavation aimed at the entrances to the ring fort enclosure shown in the geophysics and further investigation of the square enclosure. ERAS members are very welcome to join the digging team.

### **Acknowledgements**

The 2019 excavation was funded by the Yorkshire Archaeological and Historical Society. Many thanks to the landowner for allowing excavation and especially to the twenty or so volunteers who participated over the two weeks of the dig.



## *Dates for your Diary*

**Wed. 1 April, 10.30am – 3.30pm**

### **Open Day at Elmswell Old Hall**

A rare chance to see what is left of this Grade II star listed building, built by agricultural pioneer Henry Best in the 1640s, using bricks specially made for him, in Beverley. There will also be a model of the original house. Beverley Treasure House holds Henry Best's well known Farming and Memorandum books. It is a legal requirement for the building to be accessible to the public once a year, but it would be a good move to show that there is indeed still interest in this house which was almost lost to us.

To get there, leave the A166, Driffield to Garton road by turning south onto a very minor tarmac road, then immediately enter the farm gates on the left and continue to the parking area. The site is likely to be muddy and stout footwear is recommended

**Fri 24 April – Sun 26 April**

### **Medieval Settlement Research Group Conference, Hull University.**

Coastal settlement and landscape: exploring the relationship between land and sea. The event starts with a walking tour of Hull, on the Friday evening.

Saturday's speakers are - Dave Evans on Erosion, reclamation and drainage in East Yorkshire, David Petts (Durham) on Medieval fishing landscapes in Northumberland, David Griffiths (Oxford) on coastal sites in sand dune areas, Caitlin Green (Cambridge) on Missing Lincs: Medieval settlement, drowned villages and lost islands on the Lincolnshire coastline, Gillian Draper (Kent) on south-east coastal settlements, Solenn Troadec (Nottingham) on Cemeteries, coastal spaces and maritime connections in the western Channel AD 650-1050, Peter Brown (Durham) Dealing with disaster: settlements, society and natural hazards in Medieval Britain. The keynote speaker will be Tim Soens (University of Antwerp) - Villages on the Move: coastal settlement, adaptation and maladaptation to climate extremes and environment change in late Medieval Flanders.

There is a Saturday conference meal (extra cost) and a Sunday Field trip to Sunk Island, Patrington and Spurn Point. Saturday fee (members of MSRSG) £37. Sunday Field trip £15.

For further details/bookings contact Dr Helen Fenwick [h.fenwick@hull.ac.uk](mailto:h.fenwick@hull.ac.uk)

## *Historical Association (Hull Branch)*

Visitors are welcome and a donation of £2 at lectures is requested. Meetings are at the Danish Church in Hull city centre. Details of full membership of the Historical Association can be found on [www.history.org.uk](http://www.history.org.uk) or for local membership, at £10, contact Sylvia Usher [usher@usher.karoo.co.uk](mailto:usher@usher.karoo.co.uk).

Please note that the dates of the lectures advertised in the last newsletter have now had to be changed around and are as below.

**Thur. 19 March, 7.30pm, Lecture:** History Leads us from the Past to the Present.

Robert J Bell, founder of the History Troupe.

This talk looks at how we can make history more relevant for young people and tries to answer the question 'What's the use of history?' Rob has worked with thousands of people in this region, involving them in history through plays, workshops, and musical entertainments, sometimes involving them in decision-making or having to explain and argue for their viewpoint.

**Thur. 30 April, 7.30pm Lecture:** Cosmography and the Circle of Thomas More.

Prof. Janet Clare, University of Hull.

**Sat. 9 May. 1pm – 3pm**

### **Guided tour of Barton upon Humber**

Hull and East Riding Historical Association is arranging a guided tour led by Barton Civic Society guides. It will include, the Medieval Church, also the pre-conquest church (only open on Saturdays), Baysgarth House Museum, and the Wilderspin Infant School Museum.

ERAS members are most welcome on this visit. For further details please contact Vivien Feetham, by email. The cost is not fixed yet, but please book by April 21<sup>st</sup>.

[vivienfeetham@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:vivienfeetham@yahoo.co.uk)

## *Hull and East Riding Museum*

### **Finds Identification days**

If you have archaeological finds which you would like to have identified by experts from the Portable Antiquities Scheme, you can bring them in on the following dates **between 11am and 1pm only.**

**Friday 20 March**

**Friday 22 May**

**Friday 31 July**

## ***Proposed Subscription Increase To Start in 2021***

Since 2015 our ERAS accumulated funds, the value of all our assets, has fallen from around £28,000 to our present level as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 of £20,815.40. On top of this we have an outstanding commitment amounting to £3,000 to pay for the production of the Easington excavation's pottery report leaving us with a 'reserve' of around £17,800. Basically, over the past five years our rising day to day running costs are drawing closer and closer to our income despite our efforts to minimise postage and distribution costs, and increase publication sales and donated book sales, etc. Last year our income excluding publication grants was £4,226.18 whilst our general recurring cost amounted to £3,174.53 leaving us with just £1,051.65 to carry forward.

Reasons why our funds are being depleted are many, but basically whilst our income excluding grants and legacy donations has reduced, our day to day running costs are steadily rising. Whilst our income from subscriptions has remained relatively stable at around £3,800 per annum, our other sources of income have reduced, for example falling interest rates – In 2007 we received £655 in interest pa., last year £37.19. Publishers Licence Fees, the copyright income from our publications, in 2007 - £77.00, last year £1.32. This may not seem a lot, but over the years has gradually reduced our income. Also over the last few years we have not benefitted from the legacy donations we have seen in the past.

Our everyday running expenses however have risen substantially. Our lecture costs, for instance, have risen from £742 in 2007 to £1,725 last year. Our insurance had risen from £354 in 2007 to £631 in 2018 (last year I changed our broker and reduced this figure to £284). Stationary, postage and printing cost pa, in general have doubled since 2007.

The committee recognised this position, but we also recognised that asking you the members for an increase in subscriptions when our funding levels were so much higher than our minimum reserves level would not be the right thing to do.

The current subscription rates have been in place since 1999. With this in mind, over the past five years, the Committee has agreed to fund more local archaeological projects and we have published volumes of the East Riding Archaeologist at more

frequent intervals. We have also invested in new equipment, primarily the Mk 2 Resistivity Meter and four-probe frame. At the same time, we reviewed and reduced our Reserves Policy.

As a registered charity, ERAS must abide by an approved Reserves Policy which sets the minimum funding level required for the Society to function for a minimum of at least two years without any additional income. This policy document must be approved by the Society's Trustees and be registered with the Charities Commission. Since 2004 our minimum reserve level was set at £20,000, however last year we reviewed the policy and found that due to the falling prices of, for example, publications printing and IT equipment, we could afford to lower our reserves limit range to £15,000 - £18,000.

Now, with our reserves down to £17,800, the committee is recommending that member subscription fees should be raised by £5.00 across all membership classes as from **1<sup>st</sup> January 2021** to: -

Single member	£20.00
Family Member	£25.00
Student	£10.00

This increase will allow ERAS to continue at its current level of activity hopefully for many years to come.

In accordance with our ERAS Constitution, any increase in subscriptions must be approved by a vote at the AGM. in April. If you cannot attend the AGM however, we will accept comments or votes via post or email at the usual addresses.

We hope that you will agree to this increase and will continue to support the Society into the future. If the motion is approved at the AGM, a bank Standing Order amendment form will be included in the September newsletter for those of you who wish to continue paying by this method.

*Colin Parr  
Hon. Treasurer, ERAS*

# ***Proposed Changes To the ERAS Constitution***

It has been nine years since the ERAS constitution was reviewed and the committee considers that several aspects need to be addressed. The changes set out in the proposed new constitution, below and on the next two pages are explained here.

## **Section 2 Aims and Objectives.**

ERAS, as a registered charity, needs to comply with the Charity Commission rules and regulations and demonstrate good governance by the adoption and implementation of policies and procedures. The committee has identified a number of areas where improvements are required. The proposed addition **Section 2.e.** specifically states this as an aim and objective.

In recent years ERAS has been more involved in community events and geophysical surveys. The committee propose to reflect this with alterations to **Section 2 and specifically 2.c. and the proposed addition of 2.f.** To specifically include these activities in our Aims and Objectives.

## **Section 3 Terms of Membership**

The present constitution includes an addendum, a motion adopted in 1982, in respect of metal detecting. The committee propose that this should be added as a **Note to Section 3.**

It is proposed to reduce the age stipulated for student Membership from **21 down to 18 years of age.**

## **Section 4 Officers and Committee.**

The proposed addition of the post of **Records Officer** designates this role to an individual officer who will be responsible to help achieve the proposal aim **2.e.**

The post of Website Officer is less onerous now that the new website is up and running. It is therefore proposed that the post should be removed and the remaining duties be amalgamated with Marketing in the new post of **Marketing and Social Media Officer.**

The committee consider that the terms Chairman and Vice-Chairman are out-dated and propose replacing these with **Chair and Vice-Chair.**

Under the present constitution a quorum may be established by any five committee members and there is no requirement for any of the officers to be present. The committee propose that this sentence be changed to;

**“A quorum shall be formed from any two of either, Chair, Vice-Chair, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer and any 3 other elected committee members.”**

## **Adoption of revised Constitution.**

Finally the present constitution does not have any requirement that it is signed. To address this it is proposed that **four signatures and the date of adoption is added.**

The proposed new constitution is printed below and on the next two pages.

*Hon. Secretary, Richard Coates*

---

## ***ERAS CONSTITUTION (amended January 2020)***

Additions and alterations are underlined

### **1. TITLE**

The society shall be called the East Riding Archaeological Society.

### **2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

The aims and objectives of the Society shall be to promote the study of archaeology in general and the preservation, investigation, surveying, excavation and restoration of antiquities in the East Riding in particular, and in furtherance of these objects, but not otherwise, to:

- (a) Hold meetings during the winter months at which papers of general archaeological interest will be given.

- (b) Prepare and publish papers embodying original work on the archaeology of the region.
- (c) Undertake fieldwork surveys and/or excavations and report the results and collect and preserve in the museums of the region, objects of archaeological or historical interest.
- (d) Collaborate with national or local bodies in order to further these aims and objects.
- (e) Comply with standard practice and procedures and demonstrate good governance in relation to Charity Regulations Compliance.
- (f) Promote interest in archaeology by means of community outreach events/projects.

### **3. TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP**

There shall be three classes of members, viz:

**Ordinary members, Family members and Student members.**

Subscriptions as from time to time determined by resolution of the Society at an A.G.M. or Special Meeting, shall be payable in advance on 1<sup>st</sup> of January each year. **Ordinary members** paying their subscriptions shall receive free of charge notices of meetings and any publications issued by the Society. Members of any one family permanently residing at the same address may join the Society as **Family members** and pay a combined subscription, and shall receive only one copy of any Society publication or notice of meetings. Persons under 18 years of age or in full-time attendance at Colleges or Universities may join the Society as **Student members** at a reduced rate of subscription but otherwise shall enjoy the full privileges of membership.

New members may be admitted to the Society on payment of the appropriate subscription. Any member whose subscription is three months in arrears shall be notified by the Hon. Treasurer and if the subscription remains unpaid one month after said notification, shall cease to be a member until the same shall have been paid.

#### **NOTE**

Any member, who, for personal profit and without adequate record of provenance made freely available engages in the search for, removal of, collection or sale of objects of archaeological or historical interest from sites, previously known or unknown, shall be deemed to be acting against the interests of the Society and in contravention of its constitution.

### **4. OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE**

The Officers of the Society shall be Chair, Vice-Chair, Hon. Treasurer/Membership Secretary, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Programme Secretary, Hon. Editor, Marketing and Social media Officer, Field Studies Officer and Records Officer. The affairs of the Society shall be managed by a Committee consisting of the Officers and five elected Ordinary Members. A quorum shall be formed from any two of either, Chair, Vice-Chair, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer and any 3 other elected committee members. The Chair shall serve for three years, the other Officers and Committee being elected annually. The Committee shall have power to co-opt up to two additional members. Ordinary members of the Committee shall retire after four years of service and shall not be immediately available for re-election. To further any of the aims of the Society, the Committee may appoint sub-committees with power to co-opt other members of the Society and may also appoint representatives.

### **5. ANNUAL MEETING**

- (a) An Annual Meeting shall be held each year for the adoption of a Report and Financial

Statement, the election of Officers, Committee, Hon. Auditor, and for other business.

Nominations for office must be sent to the Hon. Secretary not less than ten days before the meeting.

- (b) For the furtherance of any of the aims and objects of the Society, the Annual Meeting may form Sections, with or without a separate subscription, and may admit to such Sections persons who are not members of the Society.

**6. SPECIAL MEETINGS**

A Special Meeting of members may be convened by the Committee, or shall be called by the Hon. Secretary on the requisition in writing of 12 members who shall state the objects for which such a Special Meeting is to be called.

**7. ALTERATION OF RULES**

No part of the Constitution or Rules of the Society shall be altered except at the Annual Meeting or at a Special Meeting called for that purpose, and no such alteration shall be made to Rules 2, 7 and 9 which would have the effect of making the Society non-charitable at law. One months notice of any proposed alteration must be sent in writing to every member of the Society.

**8. INTERPRETATION OF RULES**

The Committee shall have power to act in any matter affecting the interests of the Society when the rules are silent thereon and in cases of dispute they shall be empowered to interpret and determine the meaning of any rule.

**9. DISSOLUTION**

The Society shall only be dissolved by vote of an Annual or Special Meeting convened for that purpose, or when there remains not more than ten subscribing members. In the event of dissolution, after meeting liabilities, the remaining assets shall be given or transferred to such other charitable institution or institutions having objects similar to some or all of the aims and interests of the Society.

**Adopted 1980, revised 1988, revised 2007, revised 2011, revised 2020**

**This version replaces and supersedes all previous versions.**

**Signed:**

**Chair** .....

**Hon. Treasurer** .....

**Trustee 1.** .....

**Trustee 2.** .....

**Date version adopted** .....

## **AGENDA, ERAS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. 7.00pm WED 15<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2020**

**Wilberforce Building Room LT1, Hull University NB. Please check website in case of cancellation**

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

### **2. Chair's Opening Remarks**

### **3. Minutes of the 2019 AGM**

### **4. Matters Arising**

### **5. Secretary's Report**

### **6. Treasurer's Report**

- Proposed increase to subscriptions - Motion:- "That from the 1st January 2021 subscriptions will rise by £5 across the three membership classes to"

Ordinary member   £20

Family member     £25

Student member    £10

- Proposer: Chair,

Seconder:

### **7. Proposed updated Constitution -**

Motion:- "That the revised circulated constitution amended January 2020 be adopted"

- Proposer: Chair,

Seconder:

### **8. Election of Officers - Committee nominations are:**

Chair	Samantha Braham
Vice Chair	Fiona Wilson
Treasurer/Membership secretary	Colin Parr
Secretary	Richard Coates
Programme Secretary	Richard Coates
Editor	Dave Evans
Records Officer	John Parks
Marketing and Social Media Officer	Angela Fawcett
Field Studies Officer	Michaela Stones

Any other nominations for the above posts are welcome and should be sent to the secretary, Richard Coates, in writing, no later than 6<sup>th</sup> April 2020. Richard's address and email is on page 2 of the newsletter or on the website. Members wishing to nominate someone should seek that person's agreement before doing so.

#### **Election of Five Ordinary Committee Members**

ERAS Members who are willing and eligible to stand for election as ordinary members are:

Richard Lamb, Alison Spencer, Andy Fergusson, Emma Samuel, Mathew Reeves

The Committee also recommends that Kate Dennett is co-opted onto the 2020 Committee as Newsletter Editor.

Further nominations are most welcome from the floor of the meeting. Members wishing to nominate someone should seek that person's agreement before doing so. Should there be more nominations than places; an election will be held for all five places.

### **9. Any Other Business**

## ERAS Diary 2020 - 2020

- Wed 4 Mar    Field Studies Meeting
- Wed 18 Mar    ERAS Lecture – Shaun Richardson: Burton Constable before Brown: the development of an East Yorkshire country house landscape up to c1750
- Wed 1 Apr    Field Studies Meeting
- Wed 15 Apr    AGM at 7pm followed by ERAS Lecture – Martin Brown: Henges and Hand Grenades
- Wed 6 May    Field Studies Meeting
- Wed 3 June    Field Studies Meeting
- Wed 1 July    Field Studies Meeting
- Wed 5 Aug    Field Studies Meeting
- Wed 2Sept    Field Studies Meeting
- Wed 16 Sept    ERAS Lecture: A Round-up of Work in the region

The Winter lecture programme will be listed in the September Newsletter and on the Website

All lectures are at 7.30 pm at the University of Hull, Cottingham Rd. Hull, in Wilberforce Building’s main lecture theatre, LT1.

Non-members are welcome (£2 donation).

Field Studies meetings are at 7.30, St Nicholas Community Centre, Holmechurch Lane, Beverley usually on the first Weds of each month, **but please check the website or Facebook, as other events may be organised in the summer months.** Contact the secretary Richard Coates on [coates8@coates8.karoo.co.uk](mailto:coates8@coates8.karoo.co.uk)

Cut here -----

### **Renewal / Membership Form,**

I would like to join ERAS **OR**  Please renew my ERAS membership for 2020 (due Jan 2020)

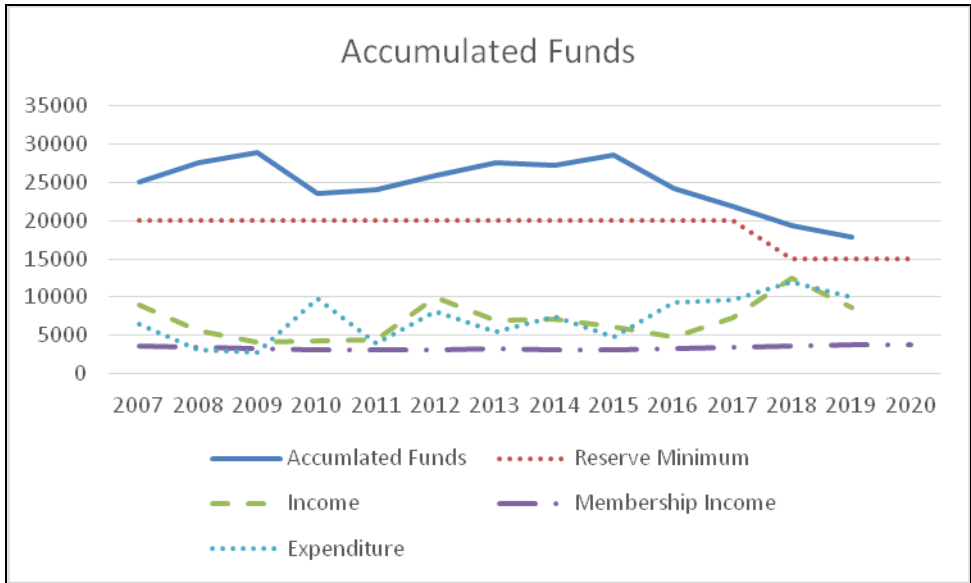
Name ..... I enclose cheque for **£15 single / £20family/ £5 fulltime student**

Address .....

.....

Email ..... Telephone.....

Please make cheque payable to ERAS & return to membership secretary Colin Parr, 32 Woodgate Rd, Hull HU5 5AH



***Proposed Subscription Increase from 2021(continued from page 4)***

---

***Kipling House Farm Excavation (continued from page 8)***

Figure 2a. Plant health setting Drone Deploy UAV photo (Tony Hunt YAA) showing the square enclosure. Note the inner square.

2b. UAV photo of the north east corner of the enclosure. (Tony Hunt, YAA)

2c. Section across the ditch of the square enclosure. (Photo: Peter Halkon)

