

# ERAS News

EAST RIDING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, No. 94 SEPTEMBER 2020



Colin Parr excavating one of the ten cattle skulls at Kipling House Farm Bronze Age/Iron Age site Photo: P. Halkon

Local News ~ Conservation Lecture Summary ~ Winestead pit alignment ~ Work at Sherburn  
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## **ERAS LOCAL NEWS . . .**

*A note from Richard Coates, our Secretary and Programme Organiser –*

### ***Virtual Lectures for this Season***

In view of the ongoing restrictions in respect of reopening venues and social distancing, it appears that it will not be possible to hold our usual lecture programme at the University of Hull. With this in mind we have decided that the only option is, as a temporary measure and only until we can return to normal, to attempt to provide a virtual lecture programme.

In order that we are able to do this, we must be able to contact members by email. Under the GDPR regulations ERAS can only contact you by email if you have given your consent. Therefore we ask that all members who wish to have access to the virtual lectures give their consent to receiving emails, *if they have not already done so*, by contacting Colin Parr at [cparrateras@outlook.com](mailto:cparrateras@outlook.com)

Members will also need to check on the ERAS website for confirmation of the time and date of the broadcast and for the instructions on how to access the virtual lecture. We hope to be able to provide our normal lectures at some time in 2021 but it is not possible at this time to inform members of when this might be.

The lectures will be broadcast / played at 7:30pm. Please see back page for the programme.

Field Studies meetings which are normally held at St Nicholas Community Centre, Holmechurch Lane, Beverley on the first Weds evening of each month, have also been suspended for the time being.

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

As notified in our previous newsletter, Vol. 18 of our major journal series *East Riding Archaeologist* is still in the final stages of preparation. It will be a monograph and our editor is expecting to be able to start on the editing in the near future.

### ***Wise Words***

*'In any voluntary organisation it can appear that a charmed circle is managing matters perfectly well.'* I quote the words of YAHS President Gill Cookson, in the 2018 issue of their *Briefing* newsletter. She goes on to say that there is always room for more members to participate in the

running of the group. Wise words indeed and I believe it is vital if ERAS is to maintain its vigour in this archaeologically important area, that more younger people help with the organisation. It's good for them, it's good for ERAS, and it's good for archaeology, so please encourage, friends, family, employees or students to get more involved, especially at a time when we could probably do with more people who enjoy using digital media. Eventually the printed newsletter will, of course be defunct, although for now, plenty of people seem to want it to continue.

### ***Aubrey Burl***

The death of Harry Aubrey Woodruff Burl in April of this year, at the age of 93, was reported in the June 13<sup>th</sup> issue of the Guardian. After completing an MA at Leicester University, in 1970, he became principal lecturer in Archaeology at Kingston upon Hull College of Education, a post he held for 10 years. Some older ERAS members might remember attending his part time archaeology classes, although he was known later and more widely for his books on stone circles. Mike Pitts, writing in the Guardian described him as '*the enthusiast's megalithic expert*'. Aubrey Burl did indeed walk the difficult line between populist and academic circles.

### ***Excavations at Brough***

Work is underway to excavate parts of Petuaria, the Roman town, known to lie beneath the modern town of Brough. Because survey equipment has improved so much in the past few years, the latest geophysical survey of the playing field at The Burrs showed so much more than was previously known. There is a clear layout of Roman roads and buildings, at one of the few undeveloped areas remaining in the modern town. Led by Dr. Peter Halkon, (University of Hull) and using volunteer workers, abiding by safe socially distanced working conditions, the excavation, running from 21<sup>st</sup> August to 6<sup>th</sup> Sept. is open to the visiting public. It is a local community instigated project with funding from a great variety of sources both local and national. Funders included BAe, Horncastle Group, Barretts, St Andrews Lodge Hull, The Centurion Club, ERYC, the Roman Society, the Royal Archaeological Institute and many more.

### ***Newsletter delivery***

Many thanks to Stuart Leadley, Peter Robinson and Ken and Jackie Parker, who volunteer to save postage by delivering newsletters locally.

*Editor*

## ***A Pit alignment at Winestead.***

***Kate Dennett***

I decided recently that I should try to put in order some of the archives I have ‘inherited’ from other people, over the years, and get them into the relevant storage location. As a new volunteer in the 1980s I worked with other members on a small excavation run by David Crowther, (Keeper of Archaeology at Hull Museums) adjacent to Weldons Plantation, Winestead, in Holderness. The excavation revealed a clay-filled pit alignment, running approximately parallel to a ditch and cutting through a linear spread of dark soil with Iron Age pottery and other finds (now in Hull and East Riding Museum stores).



*Alignment of rectangular clay filled pits cut through the linear spread of dark soil, overlying the paler natural clays.*  
*Photo: Valerie Fairhurst*

The date, origin or purpose of the pit feature was never resolved nor was the conundrum of how the perfect, un-eroded pits came to be filled so cleanly, with pure, blue-grey, reduced clay with no sign of soil infill, or of posts having been removed. Many years later, I ‘inherited’ what was left of the archive from the widow of Angus Smith, one of the volunteers, who had carried on working at the site independently, after David Crowther had moved on to another job outside the area. Recently, whilst looking at the modern *Explorer* version of the 1:25,000 OS map of the area, I noticed that the Greenwich Meridian is now marked. It runs right through the site, on the same directional heading as the pit alignment and only 20 metres away from it. I wonder ...??

I have too much other stuff to do, but if anyone has the time to research this, it might be interesting to find out whether the Meridian was ever marked by earlier land owners with a series of small rectangular pits.

## ***Lockdown Luck***

***Alison Spencer of FFWAP***

At the beginning of lockdown I, and I am sure, many other people welcomed the opportunity to catch up with writing outstanding reports, plan future events and generally have everything in place for ‘the new normal’. For me this vision has not been fulfilled, although the first six weeks saw many hours preparing for the magnetometry reports resulting from the FFWAP (Fridaythorpe Fimber Wetwang Archaeology Project) surveys. A combined database and digitising routine using QGIS and a Word report format had been developed by my FFWAP colleagues David Snowden and Kevin Cowie – we were almost ready to go . . .

Out of the blue, I received a phone call from Mr James Cundall who had been digging in a copse on his family’s farm near Sherburn. The site was in an area of known significant archaeological remains, including a ladder settlement. His finds, animal bone and pottery, were such that he realised that knowledgeable advice was required. Luckily, James Lyall agreed to visit the site and he advised that, under his visiting guidance and training, the site should be excavated to conventional archaeological standards.

Unfortunately, due to the many restrictions associated with Covid 19, it was not practical to run the project as a FFWAP activity. However, I and four colleagues had the most wonderful eight weeks of excavation, record keeping and training thanks to the two Jameses. That was the good news - the bad news is that there is now one more report to write!



*Ceramic bowl from Sherburn, Site 21*

*ERAS Lecture Summary*  
***A Day in the Life of an***  
***Archaeological Conservator***  
*Charlotte Wilkinson Feb 2020*

*It was good to welcome Charlotte a conservator with YAT She is the daughter of long-standing ERAS members Peter and Gil Wilkinson, now of Northallerton, but who were in the audience to hear this most interesting lecture.*

Stressing that she was a conservator and not a restorer, Charlotte started by setting out the basic principles of conservation work ie. minimal intervention, reversibility of treatment, working within one's competence, retaining the authenticity of the object, doing no harm to the object and keeping a photographic record of the intervention.

In an initial assessment, the conservator must identify the condition of the objects, decide whether there are any items with further research potential and identify the cost of further conservation work. This might involve radiography, microscopic examination, the stabilisation of wet organics and production of a report giving the information found during the above procedures.

Giving examples of various materials she has worked with – glass, copper alloy, wood, leather and metals, she talked about how fragile some items are. All that remained of Roman shoes at York's Driffeld Terrace site, were the hobnails, so the soil was lifted in a block and excavated in the laboratory. At Must Farm site, a Bronze Age oak wheel, partly carbonised, was only 1mm thick in places, so a temporary binder had to be used to hold it together for initial excavation. Where items are made from more than one material, the procedure would be to treat the most vulnerable part first, thus a copper alloy axe with a handle of Field Maple was treated with polyethylene glycol, but the PEG had to be kept away from the metal parts until the drying process was completed. At the other end of the scale, the Bronze Age boats found at Must Farm were so large that special crates had to be built from scaffolding poles. Individual foam blocks were made and a specialist firm of lifters had to be employed.

X-radiography is a fundamental tool for archaeological metals, being non-destructive, non interventional and creating a permanent visual record. Although all details might not be visible, it can be used on all but the most dense metals (eg lead) and can help in making treatment decisions. It

does not show up preserved organics or minerals, but does show whether an object has been plated with another metal. Some objects might have to be sent off to a lab with larger facilities and the importance of proper labelling of samples was stressed. Other processes for which objects have to be sent further afield include CT scanning and micro CT scanning.

Stabilisation of wet organic materials may have to be carried out if dealing with wood, leather, basketry, rope, textiles or any composite of these materials. A wax-like synthetic substance polyethylene glycol (PEG) can be used to soak wood objects for up to two to three years so that the PEG replaces the natural water. The object is then freeze dried for up to two months. A similar and much quicker process using glycerol is used for leather.

When working with metals the element first needs to be identified and several techniques can be used, including X-ray fluorescence (XRF), Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR) or scanning electron microscopy (SEM). Work on iron corrosion might involve the mechanical removal of corrosion under magnification. It is time consuming and in some cases, only just enough of the corrosion is removed to show the shape and identity of the object. On copper alloy, a scalpel may be used to remove corrosion. In cases where a metal object has been in contact with fabric and the mineral forms a sort of cast of the fabric, these mineral preserved organics can sometimes be identified in quite fine detail, such as the specific weave of a fabric. These are of course left in place.

Charlotte also discussed work which is carried out to maintain the quality of the objects within the museum stores or displays at York. Sometimes, objects which have been in storage for a long time can deteriorate, for example, bone combs can lose their teeth, glass beads can start to crack and bronze items can be subject to disease, resulting in a powdery green corrosion. Benzotriazole can be used to stop the bronze disease but is not always successful.

Environmental monitoring, such as checking the humidity levels on displays has to be carried out, and records kept in the form of graphs. Also part of the job is the preparation of objects for display, where items might need to be mounted or put together with other items. Charlotte stressed how important it is that items can always be taken apart again if necessary.

***A Possible Lower Palaeolithic Hand  
Axe from Danes Dyke, E. Yorkshire***  
Sam Griffiths and Richard Myerscough



Fig. 1



Fig. 2

Some 30 years ago Richard Myerscough and a colleague responded to reports of a flint scatter in a field (TA 219693) on the cliff edge to the north of Danes Dyke and during field walking the handaxe in grey ‘Wold Flint’ was recovered. Unfortunately, its significance was not realised nor was the find reported and the artefact was put into the author’s geology teaching collection for courses run by the University of Hull. During the lockdown the author was catching up with reading and noted similar artefacts. Photographs were sent to Dr Peter Halkon (University of Hull) who identified it as probably Lower/Middle Palaeolithic in age. This was then confirmed by Sam Griffiths as Lower Palaeolithic. The site was revisited and found to be obscured by a hay meadow. A watching brief and research day are to be organised with members of Bridlington U3A BUGG (Archaeology, Geology and Church Building Stones) Group and the Citizen Project to further evaluate the site.

The site is situated on the cliff top above Danes Dyke where the Upper Cretaceous Chalk (Flamborough Formation) is overlain by

Pleistocene Glaciogenic deposits of the Dimlington Stadial (Holderness Formation, Skipsea Till Member) and overlying Glaciofluvial deposits (Sewerby Gravels Member) (Catt 1990, 2007). Danes Dyke is a palaeo-valley cut along the Danes Dyke Fault which forms part of the reactivated E-W Langtoft Fault system (Rawson and Wright 2018). Possible Late Devensian sediments choke the valley with indications of a raised beach similar to the Ipswichian one at Sewerby (Myerscough pers.obs). Previous Palaeolithic finds from the area suggest that there is a habitation layer on the surface of the Skipsea Till Member which is overlain by the Sewerby Gravels (Burchell 1963), whilst later archaeological finds are found above the gravels at Beacon Hill (Moore 1963).

Artefacts of Palaeolithic age are scarce in East Yorkshire as the area was at the northern limits of climatic extremes during successive glacial and interglacial periods (Roe 1969; Ashton 2017) throughout the past million years (i.e. since Britain was first occupied by early humans (Parfitt *et. al.*, 2010)) and finds consist of axes, cores and flakes mainly in flint but there is a record of a quartzite example (Manby pers. comm). Likewise, Palaeolithic artefacts are normally associated with river valleys and not upland areas: such as the Yorkshire Wolds (Roe 2009). However, the association of artefacts in the region with the Yorkshire Wolds (also seen in Lincolnshire), especially with small tributary valleys and abandoned glacial insertions (e.g. at Danes Dyke), is of interest. Some of the earlier finds dated as Palaeolithic where doubted by some workers, (e.g. T. Sheppard on the artefacts from Flamborough and Holderness found by Burchell (Wright 1990) in the 1930s) and while a number of these earlier finds are now “lost” artefacts from Danes Dyke (reported here) and Hotham (see below) provide a more convincing, if low level, narrative of earlier human occupation in the region.

The most notable finds from the area include:

1. Hotham. Flint handaxe. Hull Museum: KINCM: 1997.121

“the hand-axe has a length of 111mm, a width of 74mm, and thickness of 38mm. Its length has lost two or three mms by breakage at the extreme tip, which was delicate enough above the area of battering (referred to), but otherwise there is there is relatively little damage of a mechanical nature. There are, however a number of fine frost-cracks on each face, and some of these have opened up to produce small

stepped thermal removals.” (Roe in Halkon 2009)

2. Pocklington (Manby pers. comm). Quartzite handaxe. Present location not known
3. Sewerby. Levallois core in flint. (Loughlin and Miller 1979) East Riding Museum: ERYMS:1993.1583 TA203687.

“A Middle Palaeolithic flint tortoise core found on the surface near the new Sewerby steps, about 100 yards E. of the pre-glacial cliff, probably disturbed by recent bulldozing. It is 82 by 63 by 24mm, stained orange and yellow, mottled in parts dark green, recently chipped in places to reveal grey and brown flint. There are cortex remains on both back and front. Five shallow flakes have been struck off the ventral side and a series of steep flakes struck off three sides of the dorsal surface, and finally a larger flake has been struck along the horizontal plane across the prepared surface.” (Earnshaw and Manby 1963)

4. ‘Sowerby’ (Watson, Bridges, Wear and Wise 2011). Flint handaxe in Nuneaton Museum. Possible misspell of location? NUNC/4/80/12
5. Beacon Hill (Burchell 1931). Flint flakes and cores; likely to be later in age. Present location not known.
6. East Huntow (Evans 1897; Lavaille 1946; Elgee 1930; Roe 1969). Flint handaxe. Yorkshire Museum: YMT. 2001.3634? TA 166706.
7. Rudston (TERPS 1996). Flint handaxe. TA 950675. Present location not known.
8. East Ayton (Roe 1969). Flint handaxe. TA 001845. Present location unknown.
9. Holmpton (Roe 1969). Flint flakes. TA 367233. Present location not known.
10. Keyingham (Wymer 1999). Flint handaxe and several flaked implements. TA 243255. Present location not known.

### ***The Dane’s Dyke Handaxe***

The artefact (Fig.1/2) is of grey Wolds Flint and shows little to no surface damage (despite originating from plough soil). It is in fresh condition and shows no evidence for reworking after initial production (based on limited analysis at this stage). Cortex (thin, white/off-white) is present on both faces suggesting a tabular-like nodule was used. Measurements are – length 137.5mm, width 70mm, thickness 42.5mm, butt width 70.5mm, tip width 40.1mm

The Palaeolithic artefacts listed represent human activity in the region for up-to the last 500,000 years, i.e. from potentially MIS 11 onwards. With no known sedimentary outcrop of this age (i.e. until the MIS 5 raised beach deposit at Sewerby and potential correlating deposit at Danes Dyke) it is unknown what MIS the Lower Palaeolithic artefacts could be assigned too. The early human presence exploited local glacial derived grey flints from the Burnham and Welton Chalk Formations as well as black and amber flints from higher Chalk horizons in the North Sea Basin. This could show similarities with the later human movement over Doggerland, when hunter gatherers were migrating across/within that well studied, now submerged, landscape (Gaffney 2009). They would have been confronted with the steep, possibly wooded chalk cliffs of Flamborough Head with little chance of scaling them. Indeed, Rudston lies in the valley of the Gypsy Race (a seasonal chalk stream occupying a fault orientated palaeo-valley), from where it runs off the Wolds to the sea; now through Bridlington Harbour. The location and composition of the substrata of origin of the artefact reported here will be part of upcoming survey work at Danes Dyke. The area is rich in Later Prehistoric activity (including lithics) but no recorded Pleistocene outcrops (other than those assigned to MIS 5 or later) have yet been located. It therefore remains a mystery as to where the handaxe(s) of Palaeolithic origin (Danes Dyke and supposed at Rudston & East Huntow) and the Levallois core(s) from Sewerby/Beacon Hill originate from. However, the fault bounded palaeo-valleys of Danes Dyke and South Sea Landing would have allowed easy access onto the Wolds, together with a supply of fresh water from ‘Gypseys’ within the valleys. Further work in locating and verifying those “lost” artefacts is also of prime concern in the coming months.

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## ***Kipling House Farm Excavations 2020*** ***Peter Halkon & James Lyall***

After a lengthy Covid risk assessment, in August, ERAS members took part in another excavation on the ring fort at Kipling House Farm, keeping their due distance and wearing face coverings. We were funded this year by the Yorkshire Archaeological

and Historical Society. The targets for this year's research were the entrance to the outer enclosure and the enigmatic concentric square feature to the east of the ring fort. We excavated the northern terminal of the ditch to the north of the entrance, which had been remodelled on several occasions. The ditch itself was just over 4m wide and 1.5m deep, cut into chalk bedrock. The inner upper layers of the ditch contained a large dump of chalk rubble from the bank or rampart. The rampart itself had been almost completely flattened and only a couple of centimetres, was still visible in the section. The bank had been revetted at some stage by timbers in slots and post holes at each side of the entrance which would have formed a "corridor" into the enclosure. The geophysical survey showed this arrangement was mirrored in the inner enclosure ditch. Finds were sparse compared with previous years and there was no ritual deposit in the ditch terminal. The few sherds recovered were in a fabric resembling pottery from Staple Howe and likely to be of later Bronze Age/early Iron Age date.

The highlights of the excavation were the discoveries made in the square enclosure east of the ring fort. The outer ditch of this enclosure was uncovered but not fully excavated, as it had been sectioned last year and found to be around 2m across and well over a metre deep. The magnetometer survey and drone photography hinted at a narrow gully forming a square inside and concentric with the outer ditch. When the soil was stripped, the inner gully was excavated and sectioned. In places the cut of the ditch was almost invisible on the surface as it had been packed with chalk rubble. To our surprise, deposited in the upper fills of the SW corner, were the fragmentary remains of around ten cow skulls (see front cover). Bone specialist, Dr Clare Rainsford who visited the site, said that the heads of the cows had been deposited whole and fleshed. At the NW corner were red deer antlers and under them the lower jaws of red deer of varying sizes. This is truly remarkable and of national significance and probably marked an act of closure after the palisade had been demolished. There are no radiocarbon dates yet, but we presume this event took place in the Iron Age. Because of the undoubted importance of these discoveries we hope, funding permitting, to return next year. Very many thanks to the landowner and the digger driver Will, who made a brilliant job of topsoil stripping, to the YAHS for funding the excavation and to our wonderful team of volunteers who made this possible, with skill, energy and good humour considering the strange circumstances that we are experiencing at the moment.



## ***How we are dealing with the Covid related delay to our AGM***

### ***Hon. Treasurer, Colin Parr***

In accordance with Charity Commission regulations, ERAS must hold an AGM to approve the Financial Report and Accounts, the reports of the senior officers, and to elect a committee. In extenuating circumstances however if an AGM cannot be held, and the committee feel that this year, this is the case, the Trustees of the society can defer the meeting.

Our ERAS registered Trustees, who are responsible for ensuring that we conduct our dealings in accordance with both the Charity Commission rules and our own Constitution are Dave Evans, Kate Dennett, Angela Fawcett and Rose Nicholson. Following discussions our Trustees have agreed that there will be no AGM this year and that the earliest practical date for the next AGM will be April 2021.

The trustees have decided that any urgent matters should be put to the membership. The committee has agreed that the only urgent business is that the membership has a chance to read the 2019 Accounts and Treasurer's report, and to vote on their approval. Once approved, the 2019 Accounts will be submitted to the Charity Commission in accordance with their requirements by 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020.

### ***Please Vote, by post or email by Sept.31st***

We have included both reports in this Newsletter as a means of reaching the entire membership and have included a voting slip for you to record your approval. You can either return the slip to Richard Coates at the address on the slip, or submit your decision via email to

[eastridingarchsoc@outlook.com](mailto:eastridingarchsoc@outlook.com)

If you do respond via email you must include your full name and address. Also please note that Family members are only entitled to one vote.

If you have any questions about the accounts please contact Colin Parr (see contact details on inside cover) no later than 20th September to allow time for us to respond prior to the voting deadline, which is September 30th. A majority vote of votes received by that date will decide whether or not the reports have been formally accepted.

## ***Treasurer's Report for Year Ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019.***

ERAS is a registered charity and as such must submit a Financial Report and audited Accounts annually to the Charity Commission. I would once again like to thank Jackie Parker for auditing our 2019 accounts.

As anticipated, following the publication of the East Riding Archaeologist Volume 17, our accumulated fund at the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 decreased by £1,345.44 to £20,815.40. Taking into account our commitment of £3,000.00 to produce the Easington Pottery Report, this left us with a reserve fund of £17,815.40. This is better than expected however as we were able to secure publication grants to offset our printing costs.

During 2019 the committee reviewed options to save money without compromising our services, and to explore the means to enable cashless payments. Our conclusion was that little could be saved by way of services, that steps were already in place to minimise postage and publication costs and that our lecture expenses were reasonable, however we did review the cost of our public liability insurance leading to a change of broker and a saving of £346.93.

In July, with the approval of the Committee, I opened a PayPal account on behalf of the Society enabling the payment of subscriptions or purchases of books etc. directly from a personal PayPal account, or via a debit or credit card. Cashless payments can now be made personally via our card reader, or via the ERAS website. I also opened a subscription to ECWID, an online shopping site to promote our ERAS Volumes. At the moment we are restricted to only ten items we can offer for sale without incurring costs, but I don't anticipate we will be able to sell enough items to justify subscribing to one of the ECWID upgrades. Receiving payments via PayPal incurs a cost per transaction; however as a charity we receive a reduced rate that worked out at 3.27%. I anticipate that we will see an increase in transactions via PayPal in the coming years.

Looking at the Income & Expenditure Account, the left-hand figures show 2018 totals, the right-hand figures show 2019 totals. Taking each item in turn:

-

### ***Income***

#### ***Members Subscriptions***

Membership subscriptions have increased by £170 to £3,805.00; this is by far our biggest source of

income and I am pleased to report that our membership continued to grow through 2019 ending with a total of 281 members (211 Ordinary, 49 Family and 21 Students).

### ***Redundant and Donations***

A strange sounding category, this used to be a blanket category covering the fees paid by visitors to lectures, subscriptions paid by former members who are still paying by bank standing orders that we are unable to contact, money from the sale of donated 2<sup>nd</sup> hand books, and other donations including bequests from wills. Over the past few years, to clarify income sources, it has become necessary to separately identify incomes within the category. As we are now receiving income from our charity box, I have included this with our visitor entrance fees at monthly lectures, and reported it as a separate income source

On the face of it, it looks like we have had a huge decrease in the Redundant and Donations category, to the tune of £937.75, however £840.00 of last year's figure had been due to the University waiving room hire charges that were accounted for in previous year's account. The other differences to the 2018 figure are detailed below.

### ***Bank Interest***

This is down slightly to £37.19 due to the transfer of funds from our savings account to pay publications costs.

### ***Publication Sales***

This fell slightly to £357.97. We had some success with sales at our ERAS events, and we are hoping that our new website 'shop' will prove popular, but the majority of our sales are still via Ed Dennison and our thanks once again go to Ed for managing our publication sales on behalf of the Society.

### ***PLS Income***

This is income from the Publishers' Licensing Society relating to copyright usage of our published material by schools and universities. This used to be a steady source of income for the Society but has declined over the last few years to the point where we received no income this year. It appears that fewer students are withdrawing books from libraries, relying on online sources to support their studies.

### ***Outings and Events***

This figure looks large, however, if we look at the costs associated with the Flag Fen excursion and Christmas Event, we only made £137.25 over both events.

### ***Legacy – Donated Book Sales***

This I covered earlier as Redundant and Donations and relates to the sale of books donated by members or the families of deceased members. All donations are gratefully received. Sales are down slightly on last year, but it could be that the best books have been snapped up already. For 2020 we are exploring how we can publish our full list of second hand books to all members.

### ***Lecture Visitor Donations***

Last year we increased the door fee for lecture visitors to £2 and we have continued to benefit from this in 2019. Thanks go to our 'gatekeepers' for manning the doors, and to Richard Coates, of course, for booking such popular speakers. The charity box, purchased for use at our summer events has realised £18.36 in loose change.

### ***Publication Grants.***

We received two publication grants during 2019. £2,180.00 from Wessex Archaeology, and £432.00 from On-Site Archaeology.

### ***Expenditure.***

#### ***Rod Mackey Award***

This is the annual award made to the Hull University Student who submits the best field study assignment during their second-year studies.

#### ***Lecture Expenses***

Lecture expenses cover the hire of the lecture theatre, the room at St Nicholas Community Centre which we use for field studies, plus gift vouchers and travel allowances for our guest speakers. The figure is complicated because our lecture season goes from September to April, so we aren't always billed for room hire until well into the new year. This explains the increase this year as we not only paid £320 for Sept to Dec 2018, £320 for Jan to April 2019, but also had to pay the £640 to cover the room hire from September 2019 to April 2020. This last payment though put us in credit for 2020.

#### ***Secretarial and Administration***

This category covers postage, specialist printing, printing of our newsletters and our website subscription. I have added a new category this year to cover stationary purchases. Postage and printing costs are down this year as last year we had additional expenses due to the data protection registrations (GDPR). I have added the stationary category to account for the purchase of the charity box, an A3 laminator and a PayPal card reader. These low-cost items I have not classified as 'assets'.

### ***Subscriptions***

Our subscriptions are for group membership of Yorkshire Archaeological and Historical Society (YAHS), the Council for British Archaeology (CBA) and CBA Yorkshire.

### ***Archaeological Projects***

Much reduced from 2018. This year we only funded the purchase of some display stand supports and the cost of modifying our resistivity meters to make them easier to handle, especially for children to use. This excellent work was carried out by Richard Lamb at cost price and is very much appreciated.

### ***Publication Expenses***

This year we published Volume 17. This category not only covers the cost of production and printing, but also covers post and packaging for those members who cannot get to lectures to collect their volume. Once again thanks go to our Editor Dave Evans, also Ed Dennison for his help in posting out volumes, and the volunteers who hand deliver volumes. This hand delivery service saves us around £3 per volume.

### ***Insurance***

In January 2019 we formed a sub committee to review the cost of our public and personal liability insurance and to submit our revised requirements to alternative insurance companies. This resulted in us changing from Towergate Insurance to Export and General realising a saving of £346.93.

### ***Outings and Events***

Outings and events are generally self-financing. We only charge members costs, plus a small margin to cover contingencies.

### ***Miscellaneous***

This £42.88 covered the cost of two tables at the Local History Book Fair, plus the charges for receiving payments via our new PayPal account. Each payment we receive through PayPal incurs a handling fee which amounted to £2.88 in this year, or 3.27% of payments received.

### ***Depreciation of Equipment***

For the purpose of accounting, all major ERAS purchases are depreciated over a three-year period. The resistivity meter, frame and our new gazebo weights are included in this figure.

### ***In Summary***

Overall, as stated earlier, we had a decrease of income over expenditure of £1,345.44. Added to

our 2018 fund brought forward of £22,160.84 gave us an accumulated fund on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 of £20,815.40. Subtracting our agreed project funding for the Easington Pottery Report of £3,000 gives us a reserve fund of £17,815.40.

### ***Balance Sheet***

Looking at the figures on the Balance Sheet, again, the left-hand figures show the 2018 year's totals, the right-hand 2019s. Taking each item in turn: -

#### ***Fixed Assets***

Any major items purchased on behalf of the Society are classified as Fixed Assets whose value depreciates over a three-year period. The only purchases classified as assets in 2019 were a set of steel weights to replace the plastic water fillable weights originally purchased.

#### ***Fixed assets 2019 adjusted***

The carried forward values of the Resistivity meter and the deposit we paid for the four probe frame in 2017, plus the adjusted value of the frame final payment carried forward into 2019

#### ***Additions in year***

The cost of the new gazebo weights

#### ***Less Depreciation***

Represents 1/3 of the values above.

#### ***Current Assets***

Represents our Current and Deposit Account totals less our debtors' figure of £20.00 – a cheque issued by ERAS that at year end had not been cashed.

#### ***Current Liabilities***

In 2019, we ended the year £320.00 in credit to the University. As stated earlier this comes about because of our offset lecture programme and the way the university invoices us for the use of their lecture theatre. We also include in this figure member subscriptions paid in advance.

### ***Balance***

This gave us a balance at year end of **£20,815.40** – matching the accumulated fund, as detailed.

After reviewing the outstanding dormant Holme Booklet and CBA4 awards, the Committee agreed to award the outstanding £165.98 to Dr Peter Halkon to fund ongoing archaeological projects.

*Colin Parr*  
*Hon. Treasurer, ERAS*

## ***ERAS Virtual lecture programme 2020-21***

The lectures will be broadcast / played at 7:30pm on the following dates

- 21<sup>st</sup> October 2020**      **Sam Griffiths** (Citizan) Project title to be confirmed
- 18<sup>th</sup> November 2020**   **Dr. Helen Fenwick** (University of Hull)  
Deserted Medieval Villages - attempts to create a national online archive
- 16<sup>th</sup> December 2020**   **Dr. Peter Halkon** (University of Hull)  
A Tale of Two Hilltops – Recent Fieldwork on the Later Pre-historic Landscape of the Yorkshire Wolds.
- 20<sup>th</sup> January 2021**      **Tony Hunt**  
Drones in archaeology, some updates on the latest research
- 17<sup>th</sup> February 2021**    **Shaun Richardson**  
Burton Constable before Brown: the development of an E. Yorkshire country house landscape up to c.1750
- 17<sup>th</sup> March 2021**        **Rebecca Ellis**  
The Celtic Menagerie, Animals and Humans in Late Iron Age Art, and Their Story in Yorkshire’.
- 21<sup>st</sup> April 2021**         **Dr. Adam Booth** (University of Leeds)  
Working with Ground Penetrating Radar

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

I would like to join ERAS **OR**    Please renew my ERAS membership for 2021 (due Jan 2021)

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