

THE ARP ACTA



Aylsham Roman Project Newsletter



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Welcome to the April newsletter and a mix of weather, from gorgeous sunshine to cold wet and windy!

Geophysics



The weather has stopped the geophysics from happening until now, but on 26th and 27th April, Britannia Archaeology were back with us surveying further parts of Peter's land, completing the area to the north of the lake. Mixed weather, sunny

and breezy one day and raining the next, but Matt and Louisa were determined to complete the area. They also found time to talk to some Friends and give them a go as well.



Matt has gone away to process the results in more detail, but it looks as if there are some ditches/enclosures that run up from the lake, through the trees

and may match with those discovered in Area B in the summer. There are also further ditches, enclosures, possible trackways and a curious half circle. Time will tell what it all is.

Sable, of course, was determined not to miss out and found a lovely hole to dig her way into and, yes, you've guessed it, sent flying pieces of pottery and tile. Once Matt checked this area, he thinks she has found a ditch. Clever Sable.



Martin and Dan will be visiting in the very near future to decide on this year's dig sites. There are so many interesting features now showing that the decision will not be easy!

Archaeomagnetic Dating

Katharine Foxtan, Bradford University, is coming towards the end of her study of the samples she took in the summer of Kiln 1, as her dissertation has to be in at the beginning of May. Here is her latest report:

"All the archaeomagnetic dating samples have been cut down and measured in the small spinner magnetometer. As well as measuring the samples to determine a date, the magnetic mineralogy is also being measured. This will determine the firing temperature."



This is getting very exciting and we keep our fingers crossed for Katharine. Hopefully we will have a date and, a bonus, the firing temperature as well.

Kiln Building

We talked about this last year, this year it will be a reality! In September we will build and fire a kiln full of pots, keeping to Roman traditions as much as possible. More information will be coming very shortly. We hope to identify an area very soon and start getting prepared.

Clothing Orders

Our new polo shirts are looking popular, but we can also order further items and once we have 25 we can send them to be made up. All in navy with our name and logo on, here's the price list:

Sweatshirt - £12, Hooded sweatshirt - £15, Hooded sweat jacket - £20, Rugby shirt - £25. Sizes S to XXL.

Email for an order form to get some ready for the summer or pick one up at our next events.

Bric-a-Brac Sale



It was not just the Geophysics that was delayed. Our first attempt at the sale ended up with us in the Nursery shop with a small table as the marquee

was awash! Happily the next time was really successful and over the two Saturdays we took nearly £400, so thank you to all who came, helped, donated and joined as Friends. Name the Teddy competition was won by Mrs Toplis, head at John of Gaunt Infant and Nursery School with the name Jeeves. (What ho!)



Don't forget to renew your Friend card

Some of you may get an email in the next few weeks reminding you to renew your Friend card or to let us know that you would like to be removed from our list. Those of you who became Friends in July and August, please be aware that your card will **not** be valid to take part this August 2018. If you do want to take part, please renew for £10 and sign up for just £20 **before the end of June**. There is an online form which **must** be completed by the end of June. Remember, your card gives you access at any time during the dig to see what is going on and reduced prices for any events we hold during the year.

Teams Sable and Gronmoad



Both teams have been very busy each Tuesday morning and a big cheer went up this month when the counting, weighing and recording of the pottery,

CBM and kiln material was completed.

This now needs recording on Britannia Archaeology's Concordance sheet. The next job is sorting the pottery - rims, bases, handles, body parts, patterned pieces, interesting pieces to be photographed.

Colin has been busy in another room, going through 2016 CBM and coming up with some interesting results. Could this be badger or bear? Julie needs a closer look! Either way, it's another creature for our list.



Dates for your diary... Dates for your diary

Our next event is Peter's Spring Show over the weekend **Sat/Sun June 9th and 10th**. We will be there with a tombola, Bric-a-Brac, name the teddy and the opportunity to become a Friend and sign up for this August. If you have renewed your card, please come and see us to pick it up.

BIG BIG plea. If you can come and help on those two days please let us know. If you cannot make it during the day, we would really appreciate help from **1600** onwards on **Sunday 10th** when we need to tidy up and pack everything away.

Open Air Talk

Come and join us on the Kiln Field on **Wednesday 1st August**, gates open at 1800, pay on the night, Friends - £5, non-Friends £7. Bring your sandwiches, your seats, your jumpers and your brollies! At around 1900, Peter will give an update on where we are and what we hope to do this year. This is during preparation week, the week before the dig itself starts so a great opportunity to get in the mood for the following week.



ARP.....Getting the community into holes



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