

The ARP ACTA



Aylsham Roman Project Newsletter



Vol 3 Issue 3 2019

Welcome to the January edition, a chance to look back and to look forward.

Grateful Thanks



Our great friend and mentor Dr John Davies has now retired from being chief curator at Norwich Castle. From the very beginning, he has supported Peter in developing a community project here in Aylsham and we can only thank him for his great support in all we have done. We do hope, John, that you will find time in your busy retirement to come and see us and maybe even join us during our August digs. You will always be very welcome.

Who we are

We have several new Friends this year, so a good time to review who we are and how far we have come in the last three years. Peter Purdy, the landowner, has been picking up pieces of pottery and tile on his land for 40 years and finally decided to find out what lay beneath the soil. This saw the start of the great liaison with Britannia Archaeology, our professional archaeology partners, who after an initial geophysical survey and trial trench realised there was something worth exploring under the ground here at Woodgate Nursery

Martin, Dan, Matt B, Matt A, Dan, Louisa and Andy have become more like friends over these past three years, always willing to help, support and explain what is going on.



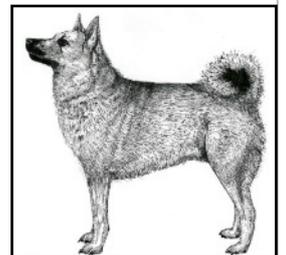
Julie Curl, our zoologist archaeologist, is another who gives her time helping and supporting us. She has identified over



twenty different species of animal paw prints made on drying tiles, including wild boar, European wild cats

and pine marten.

A dog skull and bones found during 2016 she has identified as belonging to the Spitz species and female. Named Gronmoad in a competition, she has had stories



written about her by local school children and appeared on the front cover of issue no 27 of The Annual, produced by the Norfolk Archaeological and Historical Research Group. Julie's reports on the above, plus that of a beaver amulet, also discovered at Woodgate, were

Aylsham Show

Further thanks must go to the organisers of the Aylsham Show, as Peter went to the Awards evening this month to receive a



cheque for £250. This will go towards our second Schools Archaeology Week (see below). This is very much

appreciated.

Schools Archaeology Week

We are at the planning stage for this year's event for local schools, during the week Monday-Friday June 24th - 28th 2019. Some of you helped last year and we are again looking to see if any of you can help, at any time, during the week this year. This will be in supporting groups with digging, sieving, washing etc. If you are available and would like to be involved, please email and let us know.

Let's build a Kiln

Our Kiln talk at the Friendship Hall here in Aylsham proved to be an



unbelievable success. A presentation of photographs and a video showed the progress and stages of the project, with

over 200 pots going in and coming out successfully. A report on the project can be found on our website page Reports, and the video on our YouTube channel. Several

pots made in the kiln were then auctioned off and an unbelievable and staggering total of



£512 was made. Thank you all for coming and being so generous

Dates for your diary...Dates...Dates for your diary...

Friday 15th March 2019, 7pm for 7.30pm start, is Quiz Night!

At the Friendship Hall, Aylsham, tea and coffee 50p, bring your own drink and glasses! Teams of up to 6 people, but if you can't make team, just come along and make one on the night. Fun for all. Friends - £5, Non-Friends - £7. Full details are on the Future Events page on our website, plus reminders will be on Facebook and Twitter and sent via email. This was a great event last year so book early to avoid disappointment.

Did you know?.....Did you know?.....Did you know?.....

Claudius became emperor in January 41AD after the assassination of Caligula. There was some debate before the decision was made as he had disabilities, such as a limp and a speech defect.

 **ARP.....Getting the community into holes** 

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