

SOUTHWELL COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP

NEWSLETTER

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Policy documents

The Trustees and Management Committee have approved a set of governance policies that support our compliance to Charity Commission standards and also work to safeguard members' safety and interests.

These are available for public inspection and can be found in the "about" page or:

<https://southwellarchaeology.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/policy-scag-trustees-draft.pdf>

VOLUNTEER NEEDED PLEASE!

As a busy organisation the administrative workload often falls on too few people. We would love someone to be a membership secretary and keep an eye on our database. It shouldn't be too onerous a job and doesn't require any archaeological knowledge. If you would like to help please contact Dave Johnson on:

davejohnson19tw@gmail.com

See over for further project news



SCAG MEETINGS:

SOUTHWELL LIBRARY, doors open 7 pm. Cash bar. Free to members, £5 non-members

Thursday 17th October: *"Foetid drippings. Sewage farming in the late Victorian and Edwardian Britain"*. Dr Richard Jones.

21st November - *"The decline of the bear:- tracing the extinction of Britain's largest carnivore"*. Professor Hannah O'Regan, University of Nottingham

19th December Members' Christmas do

9th January 2025: *"The Archaeology of Halam and area"* Professor Chris Brooke

20th February 2025, AGM plus "Roman Bingham" David Ingham

THE NORTON DISNEY DODECAHEDRON

Southwell Local History Society Meeting



Wednesday 23rd October, Southwell Library.

Doors open 7pm. £5 for non-members

Richard Parker talking about the 33rd one to be found in Britain and the only one in the Midlands.

COUNCIL FOR BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGY: EAST MIDLANDS

Day conference: "Country House Archaeology of the East Midlands."

SATURDAY 16TH NOVEMBER, THE MINSTER SCHOOL

Full details can be downloaded from:

<https://cbaem.archaeologyuk.org/cba-em%20events.htm>



Thursday afternoons

Lately we have been recording finds excavated from our highly successful Young Archaeologists' Summer School (photo above). The results will be incorporated into a report covering all the work in numbers 9 and 11 Church Street.

We are also cataloguing our huge collections of artefacts of various sorts so that we know what we have and can use them for further research and teaching. If you are not working Thursday afternoons a very friendly group of people meet in The Old Courthouse between 1.30 and 4pm. No expertise required, we learn from each other and sometimes get in other experts.

THOROTON SOCIETY: GEOFFREY BOND RESEARCH AWARD

We have been successful in obtaining this grant to enable us to get thin section analysis done on some of our pottery. This will enable us to research whether we have a local Medieval pottery type. Watch out for further details.

DIGITAL SOUTHWELL

We are planning an ambitious project to digitise and geolocate artefacts from Southwell onto some kind of app for the community and visitors. We hope to be collaborating with the Local History Society on this. This project is open to anyone who might be interested in researching and learning more about the process and the archaeology. Please contact Stephen for further details.

C14 Radiocarbon dating

One of our projects took place in the Vicars' Court precinct; these are buildings that stand as part of the Southwell Minster assemblage and next to a scheduled monument protecting a large and complex Romano-British 'villa' site. A late 7th to 9th century Anglo-Saxon cemetery overlays this site.

Our aim was to try and understand more about the development of the early Vicars' Choral that supported the Minster canons and about the Anglo-Saxon church believed to have pre-dated the Norman Minster. We were successful in obtaining a Community Archaeology Research grant that enabled us to get 2 bone samples dated. 2 cow bones that were found below and alongside this wall structure were sent off and came back with a probable dating of mid-8th to 9th centuries. Very exciting, and of a piece with the Saxon settlement here.



SUPPORT THE MINSTER EDUCATION TEAM -VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY

Some time ago SCAG put together a series of Romans Day activities for the Minster Education team that they have now developed and delivered to thousands of primary school pupils. Some of us volunteer to deliver these days. The team are always looking for more volunteers. It's good fun, enables you to volunteer with something worthwhile and you can learn a lot about the Romano-British site. The only qualification needed is an enthusiasm for working with young people; we can train you on the activities. If interested please contact Stephen docsrogers@btinternet.com

ON GOING PROJECTS:

Research is underway on the history of Norwood Park and it is hoped that we maybe able to follow this up with physical archaeology.

The Roman Roads Association are planning some more investigations. Some of you were involved in their last survey and we hope there will be further opportunities to trace the road to the east.

Steph has been liaising with NTU Brackenhurst on further QGIS training, look out for future details.