

# Trust for Thanet Archaeology

The Trust's education programme over the past year included organised events and projects, working with our volunteers and assisting other archaeological groups with information and resources. We continue to develop our training resources to use for education activities and to create a legacy of archaeological information and educational material for the people of Thanet.



We have used our **Dig and Discover** boxes to demonstrate a wide range of archaeological principles to all ages during school visits and our own events, as well as being lent to other groups including the newly formed Studying History and Archaeology in Lympne group.



Archaeological excavation is often inaccessible to many and the Trust has created a **Site in a Box**, to be used indoors to teach archaeological recording and it has been used successfully by archaeology students from UKC.

Archaeology for You is the main education event supported by our KAS Education Committee Grant held during the National Festival of Archaeology in July, in Quex Gardens. This year our activities were arranged around a site grid and used to demonstrate Geophysics in **Seeing Beneath the Soil**, our **Dig and Discover** boxes, recording and finds processing in **Plans and Paperwork** and pottery processing in **Evidence from Objects**. **Give it a Swirl** introduced environmental archaeology and prehistoric style vessels mosaics were recreated at **Inspired by the Past**. Iron Age and Early Roman re-



enactment group De Bello Canzio joined us again in the **Re-living Ancient Life** activity area. Our new activity for **Bones and Burials** is a recreation of a grave used to teach digging and recording burials.

Activities for local schools included another Roman Day at St.

Saviour's Junior School, Westgate and a History Day for Upton School, Broadstairs. A talk with finds handling was given at Dame Janet Academy School, Ramsgate. For schools we give an introduction to archaeological methods for exploring and reconstructing past life. Table-top displays show artefacts from Thanet and our skeleton is used to show what graves can tell us about individuals and their personal beliefs. At Upton we explored Anglo-



Saxon burials. The children at Westgate were introduced to the survival of Roman structures in modern towns and an introduction to the Roman legions. In the afternoon a volunteer was recruited to serve as a legionary, dressing in Roman Armour and classes were formed into Roman legions and led into battle while a small detachment of guards used shields to create a 'tortoise', defending their legionary standards from volleys of foam projectiles.

Our Roman armour and soldier's costume is a popular resource, a document of step by step instructions is offered from our website and has been sent out worldwide. Ewelina Wojdak, of the Jan Kasprowicz Museum, Inowroclaw, Poland contacted us for a copy to use in a children's workshop. She created a set of armour for herself, and designed her own Centurion's helmet which she modelled while the children made their own helmets and shields.



Following their excavations at Lord of the Manor, Ramsgate in 2013, the Isle of Thanet Archaeological Society (IoTAS) are keen to learn more about Post Excavation so that they can write up and publish their results. The Trust planned a series of workshops on

Post Excavation for IoTAS beginning with environmental archaeology and a practical session processing samples with our flotation tank.

Other talks, lectures and finds handling sessions given over the year were a lively hands on evening with the Thanet Bee Keepers Association and a talk to the Broadstairs Society. The Trust is giving a series of three two hour lectures on the Ancient Roots of Thanet's Towns of Margate, Broadstairs and Ramsgate for IoTAS. Deputy Director Ges Moody gave a contribution to a community archaeology conference organised by Andrew Mayfield at Shorne Country Park on the future direction of community archaeology. Our annual conference, of lectures and hands on activities is planned for November 22nd 2014 at Broadstairs Campus of Canterbury Christ Church University.

A lively social media presence is being developed using our Journal, Facebook and Twitter pages as part of our plan to engage more people in the archaeology of Thanet. In March we took part in a Twitter Museum Week project and inspired by similar photo diaries, our VM\_365 project was launched in June presenting an interesting, or thought provoking post related to the Virtual Museum, each day for a year.

**Ges Moody**  
Trust for Thanet Archaeology