



SLA Course Outline 2018



Introduction to Community Based Archaeology

Introduction

This course was first run as a 4 session Saturday afternoon course at Oakwell Hall in June/July 2016. In 2017 the decision was made to increase the number of sessions to five and to run the course at Rothwell Community Hub on Tuesday evenings. This year we plan to keep the 5 session format and run the course again on Tuesday evenings at the Hub.



Background

As members of South Leeds Archaeology, we are always talking to people who find archaeology interesting and want to know more about it and how they might get involved. Programmes such as 'Time Team' encouraged people to take an interest in their own past history and what could be discovered locally. Since 'Time Team' ceased production, most archaeological programmes seem to concentrate on the big discoveries, many of them abroad, and often involving exciting new techniques and technologies beyond the reach of local groups. We hope to fill a gap and to encourage local involvement in a fascinating activity, Community Archaeology.

The aim is to encourage those who want to be active to take part in future plans for projects within SLA and other groups looking for volunteer help with their community projects. Our course is designed to provide sufficient background knowledge in order to build sufficient confidence to volunteer.

For those who are not so physically active, the course provides a greater insight into the archaeological process and the opportunities for participating in projects in terms of planning, research and record keeping.

The course will also help participants better appreciate the programme of talks which South Leeds Archaeology holds at the Rothwell Community Hub.

'Introduction to Community Based Archaeology' has the following objectives:

- Introduce the idea that archaeology is accessible to anyone interested through Community Archaeology, defined in a broad sense.
- An overview as to the variety in terms of archaeological research, such as different periods, small finds, monumental investigation, experimental archaeology etc. etc.
- Explain the processes involved in taking a project through from start to finish.

- In broad outline there are three stages to a project:

- Research

- Archival Research
- On-line Resources
- Map Regression
- Land Ownership/Land Use



- Planning and Field Work

- Design a project plan
- Obtain permissions and finance
- Field Walking
- Topographical Survey
- Geophysical Survey
- Excavation Techniques
- Recording Context
- Recording Finds



- Post Excavation

- Finds Analysis
- Reporting, including archaeological Illustration

- The aim is to present the ideas with examples, relying on exemplar materials and PowerPoint presentations.
- Anybody is welcome, no previous knowledge or experience of archaeology is required.
- Where participants already have some specific knowledge/experience, we will encourage them to contribute that knowledge and experience as the sessions develop.
- The emphasis will be on sharing and enjoyment with no formal course assessment of the participants, only an informal evaluation sheet, completed at the end of the course.
- The course will be led by Mike Turpin SLA Chair and Dave Weldrake from Dave Weldrake Heritage Education and SLA.

The course details are:

Location: Rothwell Community Hub, Marsh Street, Rothwell, LS26 0AE

Dates: Tuesdays: 17/4/2018; 24/4/2018; 1/5/2018; 8/5/2018 and 15/5/2018

Times: 19:30 to 21:30 each evening

Cost: The course fee is £60.00 for the five sessions.

The fee also includes temporary membership of SLA until our AGM in October.

The fee includes teas/coffees during each session.

Set of course notes for reference.

For further information or to book

Contact: Mike Turpin

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