



Stay in touch! If you have an interesting topic you'd like to share or a question just get in touch and we'll publish or try to answer.

Fingers crossed we can return to the field this season. The issue might be which field we return to! We have a number of potential projects and we have a good number of enthusiastic diggers; we just need to work out the logistics - and hope that the weather co-operates.

OVER-WYRE Archaeology Revisited

In 2007, as an armchair archaeologist, I attended the CBA-NW Spring Conference in Lancaster. This report, reprinted from the CBA-NW newsletter of that year, describes a presentation that led me to leave my armchair, find a trowel and join the Wyre Archaeology Group.

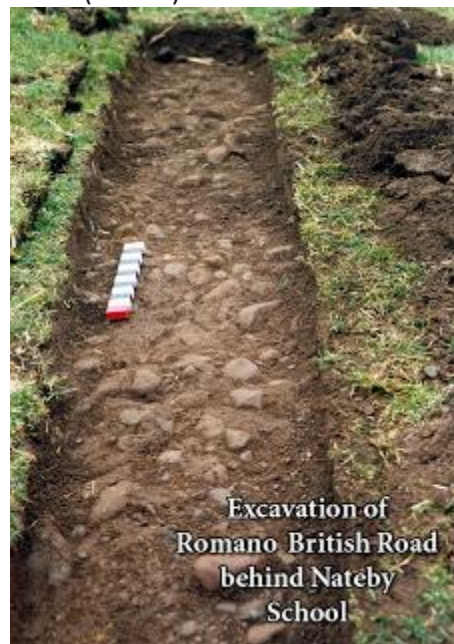
CBA North-West Spring Reports Meeting and AGM at Lancaster The 2007 spring meeting was held in the library of Lancaster's Royal Grammar School, followed by a late afternoon tour of Roman Lancaster on Castle Hill guided by David Shotter.

Nateby – Neil Thompson (Wyre Archaeology Group).

Wyre Archaeology Group, a local society formed a little more than two years ago, have been carrying out landscape assessment and excavation in the vicinity of the village of Nateby, near Garstang. The group have found earthworks and substantial timber structures ('bog oaks' deliberately placed to form squares) in the silt deposits left by several small lakes, now dried out and appearing as depressions in the landscape. These seem to be evidence of late Neolithic and / or Bronze Age field systems and the supports for lake dwellings on platforms. They have also identified features which are interpreted as the 'banjo'-shaped earthworks associated with Iron Age farmsteads and evidence for a Roman road leading toward Fleetwood.

Neil, the then-chairman of WAG, and his son, David gave a fascinating illustrated talk about the various excavations undertaken earlier by WAG's forerunner, the Pilling Historical Society. In fact most of these digs had taken place over 10 years earlier in 1995.

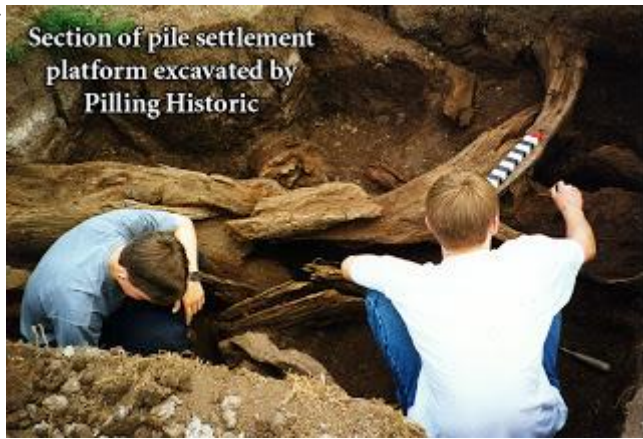
Neil and John Salisbury of PHS were responsible for the 1995 discovery of the Roman road referred to in the report and described later by Michelle Harris and Brian Hughes both in print and on their 'Fylde & Wyre Antiquarian' Blog in 2007 (*Below*).



**Excavation of
Romano British Road
behind Nateby
School**

The road was apparently revisited in 2003 when, according to the blog 'two denarii, a silver 'Tiberius' and a bronze 'Claudius', were discovered on its surface thus confirming its antiquity.'

Harris & Hughes also featured in the blog of 29 June 2007, entitled 'The Legacy of Nateby', this photo (*Below*) of the 1996 excavation of the 'lakeside settlement' described in Neil's CBA-NW presentation.



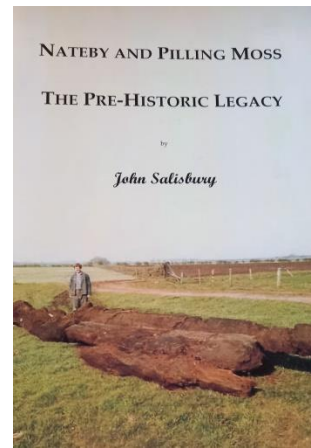
The Nateby and Pilling area has produced many other archaeological finds, including stone axes, Roman jewellery and, of course, the enigmatic bog oaks that are the remains of the ancient forest that once covered the west coast and stretched across to Ireland.

These and other archaeological treasures and features such as banjo enclosures were described by John Salisbury in his *'Nateby and Pilling Moss - the Prehistoric Legacy'* published by Sue White Secretarial Services in 2004.

The same blog posting highlighted another feature of Over-Wyre archaeology: the Nateby Henge.



This feature, measuring over 200m in diameter, was examined in February 1996 by 'P Johnson of the University Of London Archaeological Unit' who 'recorded it as a henge dating roughly from 2500BC'.



Mystery Object

Andy is still hoping for an identification of his mystery object:

Suggestions to secwya@gmail.com



Wyre Archaeology's AGM will be held in April. Arrangements will be announced via email. Members will be consulted on 2021 fees.

WEBSITES WORTH VISITING

Lancashire Archaeological Society
 Lancashire's Roman Roads (David Ratledge):
 Wigan Archaeology Society:
 University of the 3rd Age

<https://lancsarchaeologicalsociety.wordpress.com/>
www.twithr.co.uk
www.wiganarchsoc.co.uk
<https://u3asites.org.uk/lytham-st-annes>,
<https://u3asites.org.uk/wyre-lancs>,
<https://u3asites.org.uk/preston>



Membership Benefits: Full Membership: 10 meetings with voting rights, group membership of CBA and CBA(NW), free training, participation in digs, basic kit loan, personal dig insurance, WA Newsletter, Wigan AS and Lancashire Local History Federation newsletters, Lancaster Uni's Centre for Regional Studies circulars. (*£12 individuals, £18 two family members at same address, full-time students up to age 21 free*). **Associate Members:** participation in digs, basic dig training, loan of kit, dig insurance, newsletter and circulars as above (*£5*).

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Vice Chair	Davinia Jackson
Immediate Past Chair	Chris Clayton
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