



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.

Although meetings are still suspended for the time being, we hope to be able to return to excavation very shortly. This may be under the 'rule of 6' that we successfully worked to last season or even under the proposed 'rule of 30' at the end of May, subject to appropriate guidance.

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### **Executive Committee & AGM 2021**

Newer members may not be aware that Wyre Archaeology has an official Constitution. This was drawn up several years ago in the society's early days and reviewed and revised in 2018. Members may read the document on the Members' Area of the website.

The Constitution requires that an Annual General Meeting is held once every year, the date being agreed as May. A meeting of the Executive Committee must also be held at least once per year prior to the AGM. This is to formulate plans for the year and to suggest subscription rates applicable from 1 May which are then referred to members for approval at the AGM. Obviously, with the restrictions arising from the Covid pandemic, different arrangements are necessary. Some other societies have experimented with virtual meeting via ZOOM or similar social media solutions – some with mixed results. We haven't gone down this route since not all our members (including some Exec Committee members) are comfortable with or able to access such social media.

The Exec Committee has however communicated by email, although this has precluded full discussion of issues and topics. The key decision for 2021 is to recommend that subscriptions are held at £5 per person with student members remaining free.

We're confident that no member will object to this but if anyone *does* have an objection please email [secwya@gmail.com](mailto:secwya@gmail.com). Similarly if any

member wishes to stand for election to the Exec Committee they should notify the Secretary by email. It's intended to hold a delayed AGM when we're able to meet in person.

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Dig Update

As indicated in the last newsletter we hope to start digs again shortly. We successfully ran a dig last season under the Covid 'rule of 6' and there's no reason that we can't repeat the process. A greater relaxation of the rules may follow but we will need to seek guidance on this.

We have a long-term project begun at the end of 2019 at Brock Cottage. This riverside cottage possibly dates from the 17th Century or earlier. Early finds have included a knife stolen from a café in Blackpool, fragments of glass sandwich paste jars and bottles, both evidence of picnicking, and an 1817 George III silver shilling.



The cottage comprises what looks to be 2 rooms, one being significantly lower than the other in which we haven't yet excavated to floor level.

Members will be invited to join in this project and other, shorter projects that will take place over weekends and some weekdays during the 2021 season.

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#### WEBSITES WORTH VISITING

Lancashire Archaeological Society

<https://lancsarchaeologicalsociety.wordpress.com/>

Lancashire's Roman Roads (David Ratledge):

[www.twithr.co.uk](http://www.twithr.co.uk)

Wigan Archaeology Society:

[www.wiganarchsoc.co.uk](http://www.wiganarchsoc.co.uk)

University of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Age

<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*).

#### WYRE ARCHAEOLOGY OFFICERS & COMMITTEE

|                      |                                        |
|----------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Chair                | Brian Rigby                            |
| Vice Chair           | Davinia Jackson                        |
| Immediate Past Chair | Chris Clayton                          |
| Treasurer            | Simon Millward-Hopkins                 |
| Secretary            | Dave Hampson                           |
| Committee Members    | Mike Edwards, Dave Berry, Peter Scott. |

#### CONTACTS

**WEB** [www.wyresearchaeology.org.uk](http://www.wyresearchaeology.org.uk)

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**Facebook** [www.facebook.com/groups/1091772967850657](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1091772967850657)

Please forward this newsletter to anyone you think may be interested.