



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.

I think there's still time to wish everyone a Happy New year and express the hope that we get a few good digs in this season. We need a good balance of not too much sun to bake the ground too hard for trowels, and just enough rain to show up what Mike has referred to as the '50 Shades of Brown', differentiating the horizons in our trenches.

Issue 60 in December gave a review of the whole year which had been a very active one, with the dig continuing at Brock Cottage plus new major excavations at Hurst Grange Park and Wardleys Creek. We also took on more Roman road exploration at Forton and in Lea.

A couple of proposed digs didn't happen; we're still waiting for news of the Kirkham *vicus* investigation and approaches to landowners of two possible historical sites were not acknowledged. We may follow these up later.

The long-term dig at Brock will continue this season but of course we're always on the look-out for new projects. So, if you hear of anything be sure to let us know. Our meetings will continue at the Village Centre Great Eccleston every 3rd Wednesday at 7.30 pm or you can get in touch by email to secwya@gmail.com.

Membership

We start the year with healthy membership numbers. We have 74 registered members of whom 47 have signed up on the Diggers' Register to permit dig organisers to contact them directly. Our webmaster (and Chairperson), Dave Berry, has spent many hours over the Christmas and New Year period giving our website a facelift. The address remains the same:
www.wyresearchaeology.org.uk,

so please take a look.

One consequence is that all individual passwords for access to the members' area now have to have 12 characters. Dave has sent this message:

All passwords are now at least 12 characters.

If your original password was 8 characters in length then put an extra '1234' on the end in order to login. 9 characters would need an extra '123', 10 characters a '12', 11 characters an extra '1'. Those with a password with 12 or more characters don't need to do anything new. Their logins should work as before.

The site has been completely re-written so there may be one or two problems. Please let me know if you come across any issues.

It would be a good idea if anyone fancies writing an article or two to go on the website - preferably on the archaeology/history of the area.

If anyone does have an item for the website, or for this newsletter, please send it to secwya@gmail.com

May we remind members that only registered members (who have paid subs or who are honorary members etc.) will have a website login and members who do not renew in April/May will have their access cancelled.

Meanwhile, our Facebook group, *Wyre Archaeology Group*:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1091772967850657> continues to grow and now has 219

members. I note that the profile of the most recent person to join gives his home as **Dallas, Texas**. I don't suppose we'll see him on digs.

In comparison, Lancashire Archaeological Society's Facebook membership is 423 and Wigan's has 801! Having said that, ours is a private rather than public group.

NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, 15 FEBRUARY 2023. VILLAGE CENTRE, GREAT ECCLESTON.

WEBSITES WORTH VISITING

Wyre Archaeology: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1091772967850657>
Friends of Hurst Grange Park: www.facebook.com/pages/category/Community/The-Friends-of-Hurst-Grange-Park-127722403929150
Lancashire's Roman Roads (David Ratledge): www.twithr.co.uk
Roman Roads Research Association: <http://www.romanroads.org>
Lancashire Archaeological Society: <https://lancsarchaeologicalsociety.wordpress.com>
Wigan Archaeology Society: www.wiganarchsoc.co.uk
University of the 3rd Age: <https://u3asites.org.uk/lytham-st-annes>, <https://u3asites.org.uk/wyre-lancs>, <https://u3asites.org.uk/preston>

If you've had an interesting archaeological experience, a visit to a historical or to a pre-historical site send in a description and photos for inclusion in the newsletter.

WYRE ARCHAEOLOGY OFFICERS & COMMITTEE

Acting Chair	Dave Berry
Vice Chair	Vacant
Immediate Past Chair	Chris Clayton
Treasurer	Simon Millward-Hopkins
Secretary	Dave Hampson
Committee Members	Mike Edwards, Peter Scott, Helen Coulthard, Andy Jackson.

CONTACTS

WEB www.wyresearchaeology.org.uk
EMAIL secwya@gmail.com
Facebook www.facebook.com/groups/1091772967850657