

The Sedgeford Historical and Archaeological Research Project



What to expect of your week as an Experimental volunteer at SHARP

Arrival

Saturday is induction day and all volunteers camping on site should arrive at the main Boneyard site between 3pm and 5.30pm, if you are likely to arrive outside of this time frame, please let us know. You will need to arrive in plenty of time to pitch your tent and unpack, although there is usually people around who can help you with tents.

At 6pm there will be a site induction, this will focus on the site facilities and rules, it will not include a site tour. This is not particularly relevant for anyone staying off-site.

At approximately 7pm we will have a welcome meal, including those staying off-site, which is open to everyone and a chance to meet the team and other volunteers attending that week.

The site is quite remote and while there is a TESCO in Heacham (10 minutes' drive) it may be prudent to bring whatever your chosen beverage is with you to save having to make an additional journey during Saturday afternoon/evening.

Contact Phone Number when travelling to SHARP

During the season, so from the first Saturday of week 1 to the Saturday of the final week, we activate the site phone, the number for this phone is [available here](#). This number is primarily monitored on our arrival days, i.e. if you are lost or need to update us on progress (if likely to arrive after 6pm). It is also the phone to contact if travelling by public transport as it is provided to team on meet and greet. This number however is not actively monitored out of season.

This number can also be used to contact us in emergencies, although it would be sensible to also write to the bookings email address as this is also checked fairly regularly during the season.

The SHARP Working Day

At SHARP we try to be fairly relaxed however volunteers should try and be prompt with their time keeping, particularly arriving in time for the site meeting in the morning. As this will help with the everyday running of the project, to ensure people hear safety announcements and to make things a more enjoyable experience for all concerned. At each break there will be a call to announce when we are going back to work, this is to ensure that everyone is aware that we are heading back to the site.

The timings below may change depending on the days activities and weather conditions.

7.30 am	Breakfast (for those staying on site, or who have paid for meals)
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8.15 am	Site notices- Daily meeting for allocating work, reading notices, everyone (even those staying off-site) must be onsite by this time.
8.30 am	Work begins
10.30 – 10.50 am	Tea break
12.30 – 1.30 pm	Lunch break
3.15 – 3.35 pm	Tea break
5.00 pm	End of work
6.00 pm	Dinner (for those staying on site, or who have paid for meals)

Human Remains Volunteering

The Human Remains team will provide more information about the work to take place closer to the time. The majority of the activity will take place in the church in Sedgford, however some sessions may take place in the various tents and marquees on the field.

The first day of each volunteer week will include a skeletal anatomy refresher session and an introduction to the SHARP recording forms and recording systems for human remains.

Examples of work that may take place during the rest of the week:

- Recording of disarticulated human bone
- Data checking of articulated skeleton recording
- Dental and pathology data entry from skeletal records
- Investigation of groups of burials with respect to intercutting and disarticulated bone
- Scanning and cataloguing of photographs from the 1996 – 2007 excavations, donated by volunteers who took part in the excavations
- Photography of skeletal remains for monograph publication and development of an online HR course

If you are interested in helping with a specific aspect of the HR work, please indicate this at the time of booking and we will try to accommodate personal preference where possible.

What to bring

Everyone who attends needs eating vessels and cutlery for lunch and tea breaks. You will also need to ensure you bring clothing and footwear suitable for the countryside. Here is a checklist of things to cover.

	Plate and bowl
	Cutlery
	Cup/mug
	Tea towel
	Appropriate clothing for all weathers
	Decent footwear – the field has areas that have nettles so sandals are worn at your own risk
	Insect repellent – we are close to a river so get mosquitos
	Sun cream – there is little shelter on the site
	Hat

All tools and materials for the work are provided, although it would be useful if you brought notepad and pencil. Also bring warm clothing as the church is often cool even in hot weather. There will be specific lists for camping.

The SHARP Week

Each day of the season we try and offer different activities in the evenings. These are included in your fees and there will be no further charge, they are available to everyone including those staying off-site. If you are staying off-site but would like to have a meal with us in the evening this is possible but please inform the catering staff, and there will be a small surcharge to cover the price of the meal.

Saturday	Until 3pm	Day off for all still staying on site, this includes the supervisors and the catering team.
	3pm-5.30pm	Arrival of new volunteers who are camping on site.
	6pm-6.45pm	Induction for on-site volunteers, and any off-site volunteers who wish to attend.
	7pm	Buffet meal for everyone.
Sunday	8.30am-5pm	Skeletal anatomy refresher session and an introduction to the SHARP recording forms.
	8.00pm	Quiz in the marquee.
Monday	8.00pm	Free evening, with campfire.
Tuesday	8.00pm – 9.30pm	Public lectures – Each season we organise a series of high-profile speakers from the archaeological and historical world to come to talk to us on various subjects. Held in the parish church.
Wednesday	8.00pm	Informal card/board games evening.
Thursday	3.30-6pm	Site tour of the trenches, this is open to all on site including those doing courses or people in the post-ex team.
	8.00pm	Free evening, with campfire. Occasional trips out (beach, bowling or pier) could be arranged.
Friday	9pm-11pm	It's PARTY time! A range of live music, karaoke and other events. Held in the marquee on Boneyard.