

August was a particularly successful and busy month for the Winchelsea and Area Archaeological and Historical Society (WAAHS).

On Saturday 15th August, WAAHS had a stall at the Winchelsea Summer Fete, where volunteers, supported by photographs and other visual material, were on hand to explain the Society's recent archaeological activities. A separate area was also provided where children could try their hand at metal detecting; only used by WAAHS as an archaeological tool and under the supervision of a professional Archaeologist. For this, a container was filled with soil excavated from the third trench cut across the Icklesham Roman Road in July 2026. Remarkably, as the open container was being brought onto the Cricket Field, a flint arrowhead was spotted lying on the surface of the soil!

The following week, from Tuesday 18th to Thursday 20th August, WAAHS volunteers excavated a fourth trench across the Icklesham Roman Road. Then, on Saturday 22nd August, the Society erected a large gazebo alongside the new excavation, on the perimeter of the Rye & District Country Show. This provided visitors with an opportunity to see the recently completed archaeology and learn more about what previous excavations of the road had revealed.

A selection of finds from the Roman Road was displayed, including two horseshoes discovered in July 2026; an Oxen shoe found in 2024; fragments of glass, also found in 2024 and subsequently dated by the British Museum to the second century AD; and examples of both locally produced and imported Samian pottery. These were accompanied by photographs, drawings and explanatory material illustrating the excavations and the construction of the Roman Road.