



# DECEMBER - 2022

PRESERVATION ♦ EDUCATION ♦ RESEARCH ♦ INSPIRE

Dear Member:

You are an important member of Time Sifters and we'd like to know you better. The holiday party is a chance for conversation with new and old friends. Board member Evelyn Mangie is hosting us this year on Saturday December 17 at 6 p.m. at her condo's party room - **Fisherman's Cove Community Room, 9000 Blind Pass Road, Sarasota**. Please RSVP to my email and tell me what dish you are bringing. Also send me a photo or two (or more) of somewhere interesting you have been to this year. Your photo should not be a selfie and it doesn't have to be of an archaeological site. We will also be playing a game of **Historical Trivia** with prizes.

We request a contribution of \$6.00 a person, plus please bring a potluck dish to share. Time Sifters will provide a main meat, drinks, and condiments.

Darwin "Smitty" Smith, President

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## Archaeologists You Should Know

### **Dame Kathleen Mary Kenyon, DBE, FBA, FSA** *Jericho - Archaeologist*

By Smitty, Time Sifters Board Member. **Sources:** Wikipedia & Encyclopedia Britannica.



**Dame Kathleen Mary Kenyon** was born the 5th of January 1906 in the Regent's Park area, London, England to Sir

Frederic Kenyon and Amy Kenyon. She had one sister, Nora Kenyon. Her father was a biblical scholar and later director of **the British Museum**. Her grandfather John

Robert Kenyon was a lawyer and a Fellow of All Souls College. Her great-great-grandfather was the politician and a lawyer, Lloyd Kenyon, 1st Baron Kenyon.

Kathleen had a long and successful career as an archaeologist. She led excavations of **Tell es-Sultan**, the site of ancient **Jericho**, from 1952 to 1958, and has been called one of the most influential archaeologists of the 20th century.

She was Principal of St Hugh's College, Oxford from 1962 to 1973.

She grew up in Bloomsbury, London, in a house attached to the **British Museum**. In later years Kenyon would remark that her father's position at the British Museum was particularly helpful for her education. Kathleen was an excellent student, winning awards at school and particularly

*Continued on page 2...*



Photos: Wikipedia

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## Kenyon...

excelling in history. She studied first at St Paul's Girls' School, read History at Somerville College, Oxford. While at Oxford, Kenyon played field hockey and also became the first female president of the Oxford University Archaeological Society. She graduated in 1929 and began a career in archaeology.

After graduation Kenyon's first field experience was as a photographer for the pioneering excavations at **Great Zimbabwe** in 1929, led by *Gertrude Caton-Thompson*. She next joined the excavation of the Romano-British settlement of **Verulamium** (St Albans), 20 miles north of London, working there each summer between 1930 and 1935.

In the years 1931 to 1934 Kenyon worked simultaneously at **Samaria, Palestine** and Verulamium. From 1936 to 1939 she carried out important excavations at **the Jewry Wall in the city of Leicester**. These findings were published in the *Illustrated London News* 1937 with pioneering reconstruction

drawings by the artist *Alan Sorrell*.

During WWII, Kenyon served as Divisional Commander of the Red Cross in Hammersmith, and later as Acting Director and Secretary of the Institute of Archaeology of the University of London.

After the war, she excavated in Southwark (London), at the Wrekin, a hill in east Shropshire, and at **Sabratha**, a Roman city in Libya.

In January 1951 she travelled to the Transjordan and undertook excavations in the West Bank at **Tell es-Sultan (Jericho)**. Her work at Jericho, from 1952 until 1958, made her world-famous and established a legacy in the archaeological methodology of the Levant. Ground-breaking discoveries concerning the Neolithic cultures of the Levant were made in this ancient settlement. Her excavation of the Early Bronze Age walled city and the external cemeteries of the end of the Early Bronze Age, together with her analysis of the stratified pottery of these periods, established her as the leading authority on that period. Because

of her work, Jericho was recognized as the oldest continuously occupied settlement in history. Having completed her excavations at Tell es-Sultan in 1958, Kenyon excavated in Jerusalem from 1961 to 1967, concentrating on the "City of David" to the immediate south of the Temple Mount.

In the 1973 New Year Honors, following her retirement from Oxford, she was appointed a Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire (DBE) "for services to archaeology". She was an elected Fellow of the British Academy (FBA) and of the Society of Antiquaries of London (FSA). She was made a Grand Officer of the Order of Independence by the King of Jordan in 1977.

Dame Kenyon passed away on the 24th of August 1978 at the age of 72 in Wrexham, Wales.



Captions: British Museum, Roman ruins Verulamium, Kenyon, Samara, Great Zimbabwe, Roman ruins Sabratha, Jericho, Sabratha, & Kenyon at Jewry Wall. Photos: Wikipedia, ulasnews, bibleicalwalks, & stories.durham.ac.uk

## Note from a Time Sifter

# Time Sifters Founded During Exciting Times for Florida Archaeology

By Sherry Svekis Time Sifters Board Member.

In October 1986, a dozen people who had taken an adult education course on Florida Archaeology taught by *Marion Almy* (a current board member), suggested that a club be formed to pursue the goals of “**preservation by education.**” Marion, a professional archaeologist, had inspired them to learn about the area’s early indigenous inhabitants and the urgent need to educate government agencies as well as individuals about the importance of preserving archaeological and

historical sites in this area. *Time Sifters Archaeology Society* was organized around the table in her small office and the society’s **first newsletter** was published 36 years ago, in December 1986.

Those were heady days for archaeology in Florida and headlines of new discoveries around the state were prominently featured in the Sarasota paper. In Tallahassee, excavations begun at the site of **Spain’s Mission San Luis** also turned up an Apalachee Indian council House, 90 feet across. Underwater research was ongoing at **Little Salt Spring and Warm Mineral Springs**. The **Windover** site in Titusville had revealed a peat bog burial pond that included the skeletal remains of 168 individuals, including remarkably well-preserved brain tissue with intact DNA, and artifacts including 86 pieces of fabric with seven different textile weaves. At the same time, the looting of local Indian mounds



*Spanish Point Excavations: George Luer and Dan Oker; Lea Schrock and George Luer; Laura Dean, Evelyn Uhlinger, Cornelia Futor.*

also made headlines.

Time Sifters’ early members were eager to become active participants in ongoing research. They took field trips to many archaeological and historic sites around the state. Members logged hundreds of hours volunteering on excavations taking place on the southwest coast, volunteering with *Dr. William Marquardt* at the Calusa Indian site on Pine Island, *Dr. George Luer* at Manasota Key, and *Marion Almy* at Spanish Point. They helped in the search for the site of the Seminole War era Fort Armistead, located in the Indian Beach area of north Sarasota, and assisted in the creation of the Window to the Past exhibit at Spanish Point.

In addition to “**getting their hands dirty,**” Time Sifters members carried through on their “preservation through education” goals. Outreach displays at area events inspired more people to

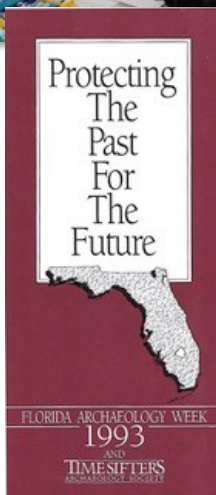
learn about archaeology and attracted new members. The society was recognized on numerous years with Public Information Merit Awards from the Sarasota Herald Tribune.

Time Sifters also received kudos statewide for writing and designing two brochures. “*Offenses Concerning Dead Bodies and Graves*” explaining

Florida Statutes 872.02 to 872.05 was distributed to developers, contractors, and interested individuals throughout the

state.

“*Protecting the Past for the Future,*” an educational brochure about the urgent need to protect and preserve important archaeological heritage, was also distributed



throughout the state.

Although the days of extensive excavations into Florida’s ancient past are mostly over, some of Time Sifters’ current members continue to lend a hand when given the opportunity. They have volunteered at Phillippi Estate Park, an archaic midden site, and in Bradenton at the Manatee Mineral Spring excavations looking for the more recent site of the Angola maroon community. The goals of Time Sifters’ founders continue to be expressed in our mission of “*Preservation, Education, Research, Inspire.*”

# Excavation Update

## An Update About Blick Mead



**David Jacques FSA**  
Professorial Research Fellow in Archaeology  
School of Humanities  
The University of Buckingham



Photo David Jacques/Tom Lyons/Amesbury Archaeology

Dear Everyone.

This time a month ago we were about two thirds into our dig. It all went so well, with BM providing far more finds than I expected - including some **aurochs bones** that can be carbon dated (Peter Rowley-Conwy has identified them and has increased Durham University's participation in the project too - wonderful). The trench at number 12 yielded so so many finds, with Andy D discovering the most **beautiful leaf shaped arrowhead** imaginable. This and other "type" finds have been identified by Barry Bishop as being from the early(ish) Neolithic which is especially intriguing bearing in mind the wonderful posthole Vicky excavated - it even had indicators of the post being taken out of it. What do the finds indicate about the age of the post?!

All of the discoveries were underpinned by the skills of our fine field archaeologists - we have never had so many on a dig and we needed them! And it is worth remembering that we would not have had them there, and indeed the excavation would not have happened, without the crucial donations we received from many of you. This year GPrX Data played an especially crucial role late on in making the dig happen. I have wanted to thank them for some time but the two people behind that countdown style collection of letters want to remain in the background. It is good at least to get the name out there.

I will be in touch about results from the post ex analysis and news about the Solstice event in Amesbury plus the tunnel when I get them. In the meantime, thank you for your special part in making the history of the Stonehenge landscape happen.

David



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