



Sedgefield Site Diary

DIGBRIGHTWATER



It's a Nene Valley Hunter Cup!

The team has found some truly wonderful

pieces of pottery, decorated with animals. First this piece, which looks like the body of a dog...



Indie Jago @IndieJago





get something that looks like this:



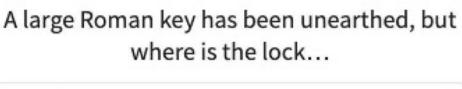
expensive and fashionable tablewares,

suggesting someone in this Roman town had

some serious cash to splash!

Jul 3 2019 - 10:00 AM

A Roman key!



@TheDigVenturers Today we truly are unlocking the secrets of the

past... we just unearthed a Roman key!

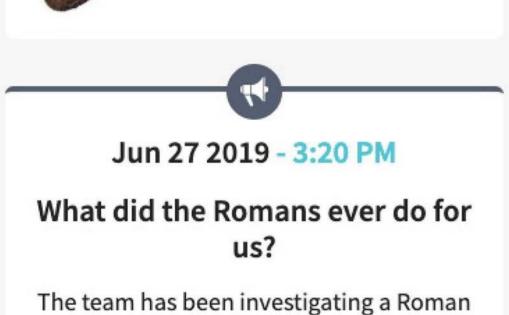
DigVentures 📀

Sedgefield!#DigBrightwater

The oldest known key (made of wood) dates back to 4000BC and comes from Assyria, but this one (made of iron) is 1800 years old and comes from a Roman town near

10:36 AM - Jul 3, 2019 15 people are talking about this > Romans simplified and improved preexisting lock and key systems, making them useable by individuals. It could even be an early example of technology taking human jobs - locks instead of 24h guards! These are some examples of other Roman keys found

at similar sites on the continent...



road, but new evidence raises new questions

about the exact date of origin...

DigVentures 🔮

@TheDigVenturers

old ditch running UNDERNEATH our Roman road. Our question now is... is it Roman too? We reckon it could be very early Roman, or

even slightly pre-Roman. Exciting times!

News from #DigBrightwater! We've found a big



Jun 20 2019 - 3:00 PM More amphorae!

Our newest Junior Archaeologist Holly has

unearthed the handle of an impressive

Roman vessel.

@DasUngemach

amphora handle she found at

#DigBrightwater@TheDigVenturers @Discoverbwlp @solheritage

Holly has wanted to be an archaeologist since

she was only 5. Today she excavated this

© 296 5:08 PM - Jun 20, 2019

>

But that's not all... Jo @DasUngemach · Jun 20, 2019 Replying to @DasUngemach She didn't stop there, but had @ArchaeoChris teach her how to label and bag up her find.

41 people are talking about this



O 17 5:08 PM - Jun 20, 2019

See Jo's other Tweets

Jul 5 2019 - 4:00 PM

The team have been excavating for three weeks, to re-open an investigation first

End of dig summary:

started by Time Team in 2003. A Roman town on the outskirts of Sedgefield. Unlike most Roman towns in the area, this

one is unusual because there's no fort and nothing to suggest it was ever associated with any military activity. Instead, the team believes that it's a settlement where everyday Romano-British people would have lived. It's surrounded by a large boundary ditch, with a road passing by. Detailed excavation has revealed that at one point, the town was cut off from the road, only to be reconnected sometime later.

uncovered lots of pottery, including Samian ware, Roman Grey Ware, amphorae handles, and even parts of a Nene Valley Hunting Cup depicting a hound chasing a hare. Thanks to everyone who joined the dig team and helped to collect all this new evidence.

Over the three weeks, the team has also

The team will now take it all back to the lab for analysis and will share more details about the discoveries as soon as they're ready. Watch this space...

Jul 4 2019 - 12:34 PM

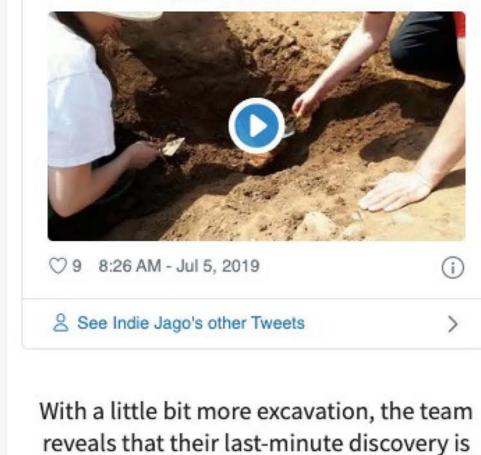
We W ditches

Archaeological lore always says that the best

discoveries are often made at the bottom of ditches, and we don't just say that to keep

really is where artefacts tend to congregate, as the team are starting to realise... Indie Jago @IndieJago The law of archaeology: you find the biggest find on the last day marghant and a state of the last

people digging all the way to the bottom! It



Yesterday the big boundary ditch at #DigBrightwater produced a roman roof tile and a large body sherd of roman amphora, that would have been produced in Spain and used to ship liquid goods such as olive oil!

another cache of Roman pottery, including

roof tile and amphorae.

Indie Jago @IndieJago



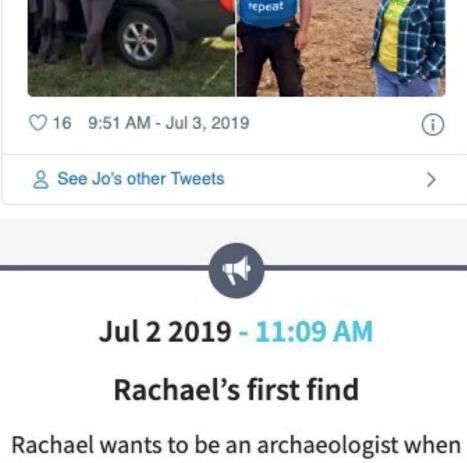
Only three days left at #DigBrightwater and @TheDigVenturers and @SolHeritage are

@DasUngemach

ready!

Hats

Top tip: always remember to bring a hat



she grows up, and the team was delighted to

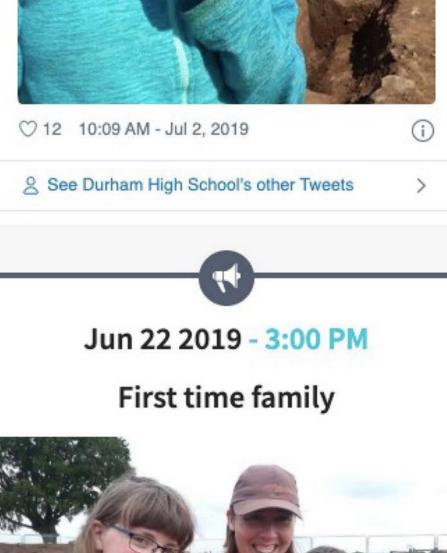
help her on her way.

Well done to Rachael who took her first steps in archaeology on Friday at #DigBrightwater. Here she is with her first discovery - a piece of

Durham High School

@DurhamHighSch

Roman Samian ware pottery!



Ellen, Sherri and John have joined the team

at East Park. It's their first ever time doing

archaeology, but they've already helped

discover new evidence from the Roman



their archaeological experience into practice and have retrieved an ancient piece of flint. Jun 19 2019 - 3:00 PM A little Samian squatter

around the county before, and are putting



poo, making pottery, or something else...??

Huge thanks to Kira for finding the

DigVentures 'Potty Man'! The site is already

yielding its secrets and we can't wait to see

what else we will reveal over the next few

weeks...

DIG BRIGHTWATER

In July 2019 we literally unlocked the secrets of Sedgefield when we discovered a 1800 year old iron key, not to mention lots of pottery, including Samian ware, Roman Grey Ware and, amphorae handles!!!

below to see how we uncovered the mysteries of the Roman sandal wearers of Sedgefield. Due to the current situation we unfortunatley have

Dig a little deeper....read our site diary

don't hang up your trowel just yet! As soon as the dust settles we'll be in touch with a revised date. **DigVentures**

had to delay our revisit to the site this April, but

Jul 5 2019 - 3:00 PM Recording \

On the last day of the dig, the team have ditched the trowels and grabbed measuring

tapes. It's time to make sure everything has been drawn, mapped, plotted and recorded so that specialists can pore over the details back in the lab.



someone dug a massive ditch cutting the town off from the road. And then something

Road-ditch-road

This Roman town grew up next to a Roman

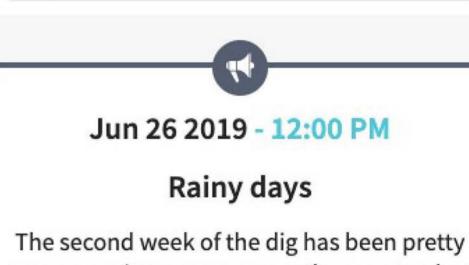
road, but then something strange happened;

even stranger happened...

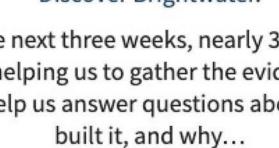


Jul 2 2019 - 1:00 PM Silly times are good times! We asked the team if they could find us some evidence of Roman baths and THIS is what they came up with 🐸





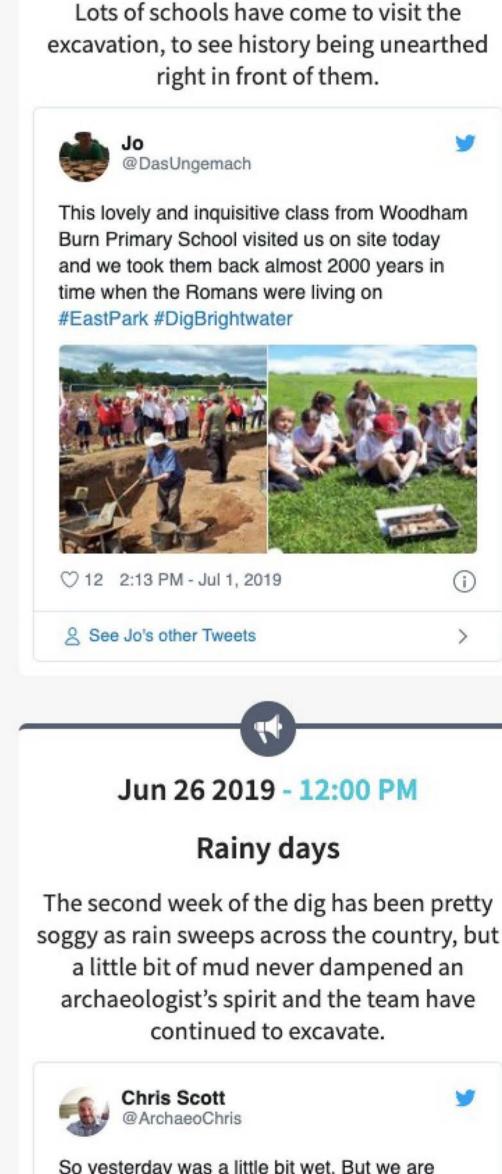




Finally! #DigBrightwater has started My While the digger is stripping of the top soil, our eager











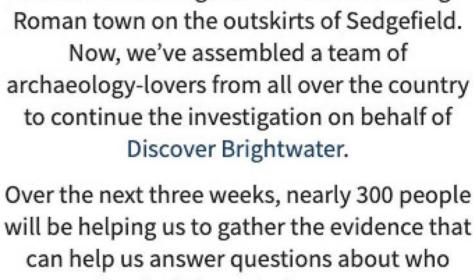




a little bit of mud never dampened an

So yesterday was a little bit wet. But we are ready to go for another day at Sedgefield for #DigBrightwater. @TheDigVenturers @IndieJago @DocWurzel @DasUngemach 18 8:55 AM - Jun 26, 2019 See Chris Scott's other Tweets > @DasUngemach It might be miserable out there, but we are keeping our spirits up because there is a Roman

O 21 11:29 AM - Jun 25, 2019



venturers are familiarising themselves with what they might find

