

# NOT DIGGING, BUT FINDS AND REPORTING

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As a long-served finds person, my entry was never going to be about actual digging! Of course, I rely on those who do the hard work on site to find nice things to look after, and occasionally I even write the finds up ([especially if the finds are brick and tile](#)).

This entry is about the recent [Heritage Lottery Fund](#) backed excavations at Roman Ravenglass, Cumbria, UK. There is a well known Roman fort, but these excavations centred on the civilian *vicus* just outside the fort. Managed by Holly of the [Lake District National Park](#), there were two four week seasons between 2013-2014. The day to day on-site digging was run by [York Archaeological Trust](#) staff.

Just last weekend, the project came to end, at least for the local community who had worked so hard to dig up their archaeology. On the Friday when the Yorkshire Team arrived in Ravenglass, Lisa of [Minerva Heritage](#) was waiting to take delivery of the finds we'd brought up with us. She then arranged them in the display case which has been placed in the [Pennington Hotel](#) in the village. The case is therefore viewable for most of the time, and for free, to all who wish to see it.

In the evening, the Team, along with some of the stalwart members of the local community (Debbie, Leo, Brian & Patty), took the opportunity to walk to the Ravenglass bath house and see the new display board. We just happened to have a bottle of fizz with us ...! The board shows some interpretive reconstructions by [Graham Sumner](#), as well as pictures of the finds and text about the vicus.

The next day, it was time for [Site Director Kurt](#) to give a lecture on the findings to a packed room in the Pennington Hotel. We had also brought with us a handling collection of the finds, which I looked after. In addition, there was also a print-out of the draft text of the site report for people to consult. When finally finished it will be available as a free download from the Lake District National Park website.

So, without a trowel being wielded, we were still doing archaeology on that Saturday!

Throughout the project, as well as being responsible for on-site finds processing, I also kept a site blog, which can be found [here](#).

Hopefully, for the community, and at least some of the team, it won't be the last time we're out doing archaeology in Ravenglass.



*Viewing the new display board at Ravenglass in Cumbria, UK*