



LEWES ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

Programme of Talks 2023-2024

- 20th October** **A Potted History of British Archaeology** with **Simon Stevens**. Simon is a Senior Archaeologist with Archaeology South East. The history of archaeology in these islands is dotted with colourful characters, amazing sites and finds, and even the odd rogue. From opening barrows before breakfast to the modern painstaking scientific analysis of strata and artefacts, the study of the past has developed rapidly through time. Today's archaeologists are the beneficiaries of centuries of archaeological experiences, both good and bad.
- 17th November** **The South Downs Explored from Above** with **Gary Webster**. Gary is Heritage Officer with the National Trust's Changing Chalk project. He will talk about *Changing Chalk: Downs from Above*, a project that used aerial photographs, both old and new, of the South Downs north of Brighton, together with lidar images from laser scans. Not only have new features been discovered but the true character of existing features is being recognised for the first time.
- 19th January** **The last Neanderthal and first Sapiens of the English Channel Region** with **Dr Matt Pope**. Matt is an Associate Professor of Palaeolithic Archaeology at the UCL Institute of Archaeology. He is currently leading on excavations at the Neanderthal site of La Cotte de St Brelade, Jersey, as well as further high-profile Palaeolithic excavations in Southern Britain and the Channel Islands.
- 23rd February** **Excavations at the Romano British Settlement at Bridge Farm, Barcombe** with **David Millum**. David is Co-director of the Culver Archaeological Project. Excavation of a Romano-British defended riverside settlement has been taking place for over a decade. He will discuss the many and varied artefacts that have been found during these excavations and how they help to interpret the site.
- 15th March** **2,000 years of archaeology at Smallhythe in Kent** with **Nathalie Cohen**. Nathalie is the London and South East regional archaeologist for the National Trust. This talk will present the results of the most recent season of excavation at the National Trust property at Smallhythe, which lies on the Kent / Sussex border. Over three weeks in August 2023 a team of over 100 volunteers, working with professional archaeologists from Archaeology South-East, Museum of London Archaeology and Historic England explored the Roman, medieval and post medieval past of this now tiny riverside settlement - revealing lost buildings and routeways, evidence for medieval shipbuilding and artefacts - which help to tell the stories of those who lived here before us.
- 19th April** **John Pull and Worthing's Stone Age Revolution** with **James Sainsbury**. James is the curator at Worthing Museum & Art Gallery. He will talk about the excavation of the labyrinthine Neolithic flint mines at Blackpatch on the chalk downland above Worthing by the amateur archaeologist John Pull; the first industrial landscape in British history!

All talks start at 7:30pm in the Lecture Room, Lewes Town Hall, Fisher Street entrance (lift access available). Fisher Street is up the hill (Station Street) from Lewes railway station, just over the crossroads in the centre of town and opposite ASK Restaurant. Nearest parking is in West Street car park – continue along Fisher Street then turn right, then shortly turn right into the car park.

Non-members are very welcome at £4/£3 (concessions), to include refreshments.
Free entry for 25 years old or under.