



LEWES ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

Programme of Talks 2025-2026

- Fri 17 October** **‘Other Deposits’ – the nature and significance of all depositional practises at Bronze Age barrows with Carina Garland**
For centuries archaeologists have considered round barrows from the Bronze Age to be strictly burial mounds, however evidence suggests that there is more to deposition at these monuments than just disposal of the dead. Carina will discuss her PhD research into other, odd deposits and what they might mean.
- Fri 21 November** **The Neolithic in Sussex with Jon Baczkowski**
Neolithic people made a significant mark on the landscape of Sussex; they operated major flint mines, built prominent causewayed camps on the Downs, such as Offham and Whitehawk, and made barrows for their dead. This talk will explore recent research on the period.
- Fri 16 January** **Beowulf and the Lost History of the Ouse Valley with George Jones**
The talk includes a brief outline of the Beowulf story, including where the original manuscript came from and the current academic consensus on it. It will then address some clear errors in interpretation and some fascinating links between the Beowulf Manuscript and surviving Anglo-Saxon charters, Anglo-Saxon Sussex, Anglo-Saxon dynasties, and etymological echoes from the Beowulf story, left behind in the landscape of Beddingham, Hamsey, Ringmer, and beyond.
- Fri 20 February** **The Preservation and Study of Bridge Cottage, Uckfield with Andrew Ledward**
Built around 1436, Bridge Cottage is one of the largest traditional medieval Wealden Hall houses in Sussex. Saved from demolition in the 1970s by Uckfield Preservation Society it underwent a major restoration in 2014 thanks to a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund. Bridge Cottage boasts well preserved timber beams and carvings typical of its period.
- Fri 20 March** **What Lies Beneath: the uses of geophysics by HAARG in revealing the archaeological landscape with Lynn Cornwall**
Lynn’s talk will describe work by the Hastings Area Archaeological Research Group at Robertsbridge Abbey and Winchelsea and includes details of their excavations.
- Fri 17 April** **Archaeology and Ancient Routeways of the Western Rother valley in West Sussex with Martin Bell**
Professor Bell will describe the archaeology relevant to the utilisation of the Weald, the connections between the Downs and the Weald in terms of transhumance and the ancient drove ways that connected and integrated these landscapes. A recent excavation of a hollow way near Petworth will be outlined together with other field surveys and a progress report on studies of early routeways in the Ouse-Cuckmere region will conclude the talk.

All talks start at 7:30pm in the Lecture Room, Lewes Town Hall, Fisher Street entrance (lift access available). Non-members very welcome: £4.00 payable in cash on the door. Free entry for those 25 years old or under.