

WARG programme for 2019-2020 – Speakers and Abstracts

Date	Speaker	Title
11 th Nov	Alex Lewis, A former lawyer who trained as a Fowey Harbour Guide after retiring to Cornwall	<p>1889 - Trade and Tragedy in a west-country seaport. Inspired by a study of harbour records from the late 1800s, this illustrated talk takes a look at Fowey's shipping industry during the twilight years of sail, at a time when the profits to be made often came at a high price for local communities.</p>
9 th Dec	Andy Manning MA Wessex Archaeology, Regional Manager South	<p>The Amesbury Archer and Boscombe Bowmen: 15 years on. An update on recent discoveries at Amesbury. It is 17 years since the discovery of the richest Beaker burial found in Western Europe – the Amesbury Archer. Within a year another project had found a new, significant Beaker burial group nearby - the Boscombe Bowmen. These individuals are now known to have travelled long distances and may be associated with the later phase of Stonehenge, so why are the burials not there but at Amesbury? Subsequent years' major excavations at Amesbury continue to reveal important Neolithic and Beaker activity and new evidence has come to light which again reinforces the wide links with the continent and perhaps explains why the burials were placed where they were and the dramatic changes these people lived through.</p>
13 th Jan	New Year Party	<p>A Musical Journey through Time with <i>The Sound Ensemble</i> (Note We are trying out a catered event this year to see how this works and a charge of £10 per person will apply)</p>
10 th Feb	Bob Marshall, Volunteer guide	<p>Bursledon Brickworks – the only surviving Victorian brickworks in the country. A brief introduction to the history of bricks and brickmaking before the industrial revolution in order to place the factory at Bursledon in context. This will followed by details of the families involved and why the brickworks were built at Lower Swanwick. The story then follows the journey of a lump of clay as it becomes a fully fired brick ready for the market. Stories of the employees and their lives is included along the way. The last part of the talk covers why the factory closed and what happened next.</p>

9 th Mar	Dr James Cole, FRAI, University of Brighton	<p>The Origins of Us: Latest developments in human evolution</p> <p>Our understanding of human evolution continues to develop at an astonishing rate. This talk will focus on the origin of our species (<i>Homo sapiens</i>) from around 300 thousand years ago, and how we interacted with our closest human ancestors such as the Neanderthals and the Denisovans. The talk will give the latest knowledge from the human fossil, the archaeological and the palaeogenetic records and show that the movement of our species across the globe, and our biological and cultural encounters with other human species have helped to define who we are in the modern world.</p>
6 th Apr	Big Dig update	Return to Barton Stacey – elusive buildings
11 th May	Charles Harris Arts Society	<p>Power by Design – How Hitler dictated his Brand.</p> <p>In the hands of the master propagandists of the Third Reich, posters became weapons of evil. Focussed on the years 1933 to 1939 the lecture covers techniques that demonized the Jews, the disabled and those of the wrong genetic background. Posters and image consultants hijacked honest patriotism to gain power and grip society. The 1936 Berlin Olympic, autobahns, shiny Volkswagens, free radios and youth programmes all papered Hitler with glory.</p>
14 th Sept	Dr John Crook, FSA Archaeological Consultant to Winchester Cathedral	<p>Recent investigations at Winchester Cathedral.</p> <p>Dr Crook will give an illustrated presentation about the many historical and archaeological discoveries made during the National Heritage Lottery funded works between 2013 and 2019. Below ground archaeology included the excavation of a deep lift pit, which provided new insights into the way the Norman cathedral was constructed, and a foul water drain right across the inner Close, which has allowed the monastic plan of the Priory of St. Swithun to be refined. Above ground, the opening up of historic fabric required to form the new <i>Kings and Scribes</i> exhibits and the conservation work undertaken to the presbytery roof and vault have provided new insights into the cathedral's history.</p>
12 th Oct	AGM and PhD candidate talks	Tom Watson "Winchester's Anglo- Saxon Saints"; John Merriman "The impact of the Black Death (1348-49) on the clergy of the Winchester Diocese"

9 th Nov	Don Bryan, BA(Arch), Director HADS	<p>60 years in Archaeology</p> <p>As Don marks this milestone he will share with us it's beginning and his long interest in archaeology from excavations at Old Otterbourne church. Along the way he'll talk about the Pendragon Society's search for King Arthur at Tintagel, Glastonbury and South Cadbury and some early excavations in Winchester, the Gower Peninsula and Roman sites across Somerset before joining SHARG (South Hampshire Archaeology Rescue Group) 1982 when attention shifted to the Victoria Road cemetery site as well as the new M27 and M3 routes. The Brooks excavations were important for WARG as was the search for another king, King Alfred this time, at Hyde Abbey. Gaining his degree as a mature student at Southampton then, having retired from BT, Don went on to teach O level and A level archaeology at Eastleigh College, Barton Peveril and Fareham College whilst teaching at the same time local history at Henry Beaufort College. And yes, there is more but let's leave something for the night.</p>
14 th Dec	Marjoleine Butler, Trustee, CBA and Roland Smith, Chair, CBA Wessex	<p>CBA at 75 and CBA Wessex at 60 – Celebrating Archaeology for All, past, present and future</p>