

Forthcoming Merseyside Archaeology Society (MAS) Events:

Our monthly series of winter evening talks resumed on the third Thursday of each month and take place from September 2022 – April 2023

The venue is the Quaker Meeting House (QMH) 22 School Lane, Liverpool L1 3BT. It is close to Lime Street and Liverpool Central train stations, and Queen Street and Liverpool One bus stations.

Details of the venue are here: <https://www.liverpoolquakers.org.uk/contact>

Doors open at 7.00pm for coffee/tea/biscuits and the meeting starts at 7.30pm, closing at 9.00pm. The costs to attend a meeting are £1 for MAS members, with visitors welcome at £2

Programme for autumn/winter MAS talks.

DATE	venue	Speaker	Topic
Sun 12 th Feb 8 – 9 pm	TV BBC2 & iplayer online	BBC Digging for Britain Series 10 Episode 6/6	A feature on the Liverpool Docks is based around the 2022 Museum of Liverpool community dig at The Piermaster's House led by Vanessa Oakden. [See https://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/archaeology/archaeology-national-museums-liverpool/community-archaeology/piermasters-green for 2021's project] It's about 31.15 – 40.00 minutes into the programme. https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/b014hl0d/digging-for-britain
Feb 16 th	In person QMH	Current research by students in Liverpool	Three talks by Liverpool students: George Downs. Autonomous itineraries: The future of archaeological tourism in Aegean Turkey, Catalonia and Merseyside. Emily Bowyer-Kazadi. Engaging with Archaeological Landscapes: Narratives from British National Parks Alex Bowers. Rickets, Resorption and Revolution: An investigation into the relationship between vitamin D deficiency in childhood and osteoporosis in adulthood in an 18th-19th century archaeological population.
March 16 th	In person QMH	Dave Roberts	Childwall Churchyard Survey: Present and Future Work https://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/archaeology/archaeology-national-museums-liverpool/community-archaeology/childwall-graves
April 20 th	In person QMH	AGM & Members' evening	Your chance to tell us about interesting things, places and ideas!

16th February: We are back in person at the Quaker Meeting House!

This is a new type of presentation (for MAS) that we hope could become an annual event. In a format similar to a conference session, we will have three short talks by Liverpool students on their new research. There will be time for questions after each talk, plus a general discussion session at the end. Please come along and support our local archaeology & heritage students and hear about their brand-new research into a variety of topics. You heard it at MAS first!

THREE Abstracts for talks on 16th Feb:

George Downs: The Future of Archaeological Tourism in Aegean Turkey, Catalonia and Merseyside. (PhD in progress, University of Liverpool).

National tourism agencies and large tour operators have historically prioritised the marketing of selected archaeological sites. The free-independent-traveller (FIT) market has seen significant growth in recent years, but how do individuals choose where to visit? My research focuses on two archaeological sites in each of three regions: Aegean Turkey, Catalonia, and Merseyside. A core aim is to explain how and why an archaeological site is valued by a tourist, by investigating the extent to which narratives of Colonialism (ancient and modern), Classicism and Religion contribute to the popularity of certain archaeological sites.

Emily Bowyer-Kazadi: Engaging with Archaeological Landscapes: Narratives from British National Parks (PhD in progress, University of Liverpool).

How can engaging with archaeological landscapes impact both our wellbeing and our sense of identity? This is the main thread of my PhD research and will be discussed in relation to issues such as access, diversity, inclusivity and equality, as well as the way they are affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. One method I am using to highlight these issues is Deconstructed Landscape Photography which looks at individual elements of the landscape, in a panel rather than the landscape as a whole



Alex Bowers: Rickets, Resorption and Revolution: An investigation into the relationship between vitamin D deficiency in childhood and osteoporosis in adulthood in an 18th-19th century archaeological population. (Completed Masters dissertation. New PhD on Anglo-Saxon children's remains recently started at UCLan: University of Central Lancashire)

This study looked at how lifestyle and diseases in childhood can affect long-term health in the adult skeleton. The material came from a Quaker burial ground at Coach Lane, North Shields, England. Age at death, anatomical sex, and environmental factors were taken into consideration in the interpretation of the data.

Forthcoming non-MAS online talks

The National Lottery Heritage Fund- sponsored **Westmorland Dales Landscape Partnership** monthly Winter Webinars start again on 1st February

For full info about the project's in-person & online events see:

<https://www.friendsofthelakedistrict.org.uk/Pages/Events/Default.aspx?CategoryTitle=westmorland-dales-events-2022&SubsiteTitle=westmorland-dales-hidden-landscapes-partnership>

Wednesday 1st February 3.00pm Rebekah Booth **Churn Stands, Gate Stoops and Date Stones.**

Our Cultural Heritage Trainee, Rebekah Booth, will be giving a talk on the Small-scale Heritage Features project which she has led with volunteers this year. The surveys ran from March to August 2022 and included nine settlements in the Westmorland Dales. They focussed on those small-scale heritage features such as churn-stands, gate stoops and date stones which help give our villages a sense of place. The webinar will explore how the features recorded in each village vary, as well as the thematic links that can be made between them.

FREE but register to obtain link

<https://www.friendsofthelakedistrict.org.uk/Event/churn-stands-gate-stoops-and-date-stones>

Wednesday 1st February 18.00 – 19.00. **Anglo-Saxon pagan gods.** (part of Gresham College's series of talks by Prof Ronald Hutton on pagan gods in Britain). When the Western Roman Empire crumbled, the Anglo-Saxon peoples who occupied Britain brought their own paganism with them. This was Germanic, with a pantheon of deities that included Woden, Thunor, Tiw and Frig. Its temples were wooden structures that leave scant traces in the landscape, but you can find evidence for their beliefs in cemeteries like Sutton Hoo. This lecture looks at such evidence and at literature such as Beowulf and the history written by the Christian scholar Bede.

<https://www.gresham.ac.uk/whats-on/anglo-saxon-gods>

Heads up for the next talk on

Wednesday 8th March 18.00 – 19.00 Viking pagan gods in Britain. The Norse and Danish invaders - commonly called Vikings - who occupied Britain in the ninth and tenth centuries, brought with them their own pagan gods. Odin, Thor, Tyr, Loki and Freya left their trace on the British landscape, in the form of scenes from their mythology carved on stone slabs, and Viking paganism has a further considerable legacy of material evidence in richly furnished graves, especially on the Isle of Man.

<https://www.gresham.ac.uk/whats-on/viking-gods>

Thursday 2nd Feb 5.00 – 6.00 Society of Antiquaries of London/Hellenic Society/Roman Society talk by Dr Yannis Galanakis **The antiquities trade in late 19th century Greece: Stories of people and objects**

FREE but register to obtain the link

<https://www.sal.org.uk/event/antiquities-trade/>

Thursday 9th Feb 5.00 – 6.00pm A Society of Antiquaries of London lecture by Dr Toby Driver & Prof Andrew Fitzpatrick **Castell Nadolig and the Penbryn spoons: a new investigation** (a Welsh Iron Age hillfort and unusual bronze spoons found there now on display in Ashmolean Museum, Oxford).

FREE but register to obtain link

<https://www.sal.org.uk/event/castell-nadolig-and-the-penbryn-spoons-a-new-investigation/>

Sunday 12th February 8.00 – 9.00 pm BBC 2 TV Digging for Britain will feature the Museum of Liverpool's Community excavation at Piermaster's Green. See:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0dm82fz>

The **School of Forensics and Archaeological Science at the University of Bradford** is hosting a series of hybrid public guest lectures at roughly fortnightly intervals during the winter

Tuesday 14th Feb 5.30pm (ie 17.30) **Excavations at the migration period cemetery at Scremby, Lincolnshire** by Hugh Wilmott

FREE but register to receive the link for each talk of interest (click on the talk's title)

<https://www.bradford.ac.uk/archaeological-forensic-sciences/events/>

The **Yorkshire Museum's** series of talks to accompany their exhibition about the **Roman Ryedale Hoard** is continuing:

<https://www.yorkshireremuseum.org.uk/exhibition/the-ryedale-hoard-a-roman-mystery/>

FREE but register to receive link

Thursday 16th February 5.15pm Living in the Roman Countryside

NEEDS SPEAKER & LINK Hopefully this will go ahead as planned but no details were available on 30th Jan, so please check in case it has been cancelled.

Heads up for:

Thursday 16th March 4.30pm Dr John Pearce: **Gods in bronze: the pantheon of Roman Britain and the Portable Antiquities Scheme.**

A new series of three **Gresham College** talks by leading archaeologists on **The Ancient Landscapes of Britain** takes place in Feb & March

<https://www.gresham.ac.uk/watch-now/series/ancient-britain>

Thursday 23rd February 18.00 (6.00pm) Mike Pitts **Stonehenge; A history**

Our contemporary ideas about Stonehenge and British antiquity were shaped in times of empire and war. They dominate popular histories and inform national identity.

Focusing on how Stonehenge was built, and drawing on a wealth of evidence which includes new archaeology and science, this lecture describes an alternative narrative

of ancient communities, and presents a more positive and inclusive story – a Stonehenge re-imagined for modern Britain.

FREE but register to obtain link:

<https://www.gresham.ac.uk/whats-on/stonehenge-history>

heads up for the other two talks:

Weds 15 March 6.00pm- Martin Millett on **Roman landscapes**;

Thurs 23rd March 6.00pm- Helena Hamerow on **the Medieval agricultural revolution**

Recordings of past talks:

Recordings of previous Westmorland Dales heritage webinars can be viewed at:

<https://www.friendsofthelakedistrict.org.uk/Pages/FAQs/Site/westmorland-dales-hidden-landscapes-partnership/Category/westmorland-dales-heritage-talks>

Recordings of some (a lot!) of talks to the **Society of Antiquaries of London** are available on their YouTube channel at:

<https://www.youtube.com/@SocAntiquaries/videos>

The **Gresham College** series of talks continue. There are many themes: if you want to see all of them (only some are historical/heritage themed; there are lots of social, ethical, medical & scientific themes as well) then look at their home website:

<https://www.gresham.ac.uk/whats-on/lecture-series-2022-23>

The series of talks by Prof. Ronald Hutton on **Pagan ie pre-Christian gods of Europe** restarts in very early February (& continues until June).

This is the first series of three sets of lectures devoted to the perennial 'others' of the European Christian tradition, those phenomena which have always been present as active forces or cultural memories in Christian Europe and which theological orthodoxy has regarded as suspect. The first of the phenomena consists of the pre-Christian religions of Europe, defined in Christian tradition as paganism. These were suppressed as religious systems at the time of conversion to Christianity but elements of them survived as major components of literature, art and folklore.

The **two previous talks** in the series (Gods of prehistoric Britain; Paganism in Roman Britain) can be viewed at the same website as the new talks.

<https://www.gresham.ac.uk/watch-now/series/lost-gods>

The **Council for British Archaeology (CBA) Yorkshire** regional group organise 'Fireside chats' ie talks by members and guest speakers and several are on their YouTube channel at

<http://www.cba-yorkshire.org.uk/videos/>

The **Yorkshire Museum's** series of talks to accompany their current live exhibition of the **Rydale Hoard** continue. The talk about the Roman Countryside scheduled for 16th Feb doesn't yet have a speaker or a link but you can access previous talks eg December's talk by Emily North on Yorkshire's Roman metalworkers at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5BLqIUrCkh8>

TV programmes

BBC2's Digging For Britain series 10 ('magazine-style' programmes; presented by Alice Roberts) has been airing weekly in Jan/Feb (first showings on Sundays, repeated at 00.15 on Thursday mornings)

The last episode 10.6 'Ice Age Camp & a Saint with Syphilis' has the article about the **Port of Liverpool** about half way through and will be broadcast on Sunday 12th Feb, probably from 8.00 – 9.00pm (but all episodes are available online now).

The second episode 10.2 called 'Arthur's Stone & a Georgian Mine' had an article about the new work at some short-lived (in response to the Napoleonic wars) **cobalt mines in Alderley Edge**.

See all six Series 10 episodes (and links to Series 9 & some other programmes) at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b014hl0d/episodes/guide>

Villages by the sea: (each episode dedicated to a particular coastal site; presented by Ben Robinson). All 10 episodes are available on iplayer (including **Parkgate, Wirral** in Series 3) at: www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000c78q

Other online resources

If you would like to stay in touch with the **Carneddau** project that Jane Kenney talked about in her presentation to MAS on 19th Jan, look at the Snowdonia (aka Eryri) National Park site at <https://snowdonia.gov.wales/protect/conservation-work/> or go straight to the **Landscape Partnership** site at <https://snowdonia.gov.wales/protect/conservation-work/carneddau-landscape-partnership/> If you scroll down to the foot of the page you can sign up to receive the e-newsletter, keeping you up to date with events organised by the partnership.

Various sites and museums are developing 3-D virtual tours, including:
Larnaca, Cyprus: a 'joint visit' to 9 museums including the Larnaka Historic Archives Museum & the Byzantine Museum of Larnaca
<https://larnakaregion.com/larnaka-virtual-museums>

Athenian Acropolis, Greece: explore the streets, temples and buildings of the acropolis in their heyday.
NB this website provides tours of **many other sites** and places of historic interest
https://discover.lithodomos.com/itinerary/ancient_acropolis

The Zeugma Mosaic Museum, Gaziantep, Turkey contains lots of mosaics from the Roman and Late Antique periods. They have a 360 degree tour

<https://fromhome.turkishmuseums.com/museums/Zeugma/>

and there are lots more online resources about **Turkish museums and famous archaeological sites** from Turkish Museums at

<https://fromhome.turkishmuseums.com/>

Blenheim Palace, Oxfordshire, England: 360° tours of the state rooms (with audio guide) or behind the scenes topics about maintenance of the palace and its collections

<https://virtual.blenheimpalace.com>

Muchelney Abbey, Somerset, England: a virtual tour of the abbey buildings plus info about the monks who lived there

www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/muchelney-abbey/history/virtual-tour

You can 'look inside' and explore the interior of Pharoah Khufu's pyramid (**The Great Pyramid of Giza**) at <https://giza.mused.org/en/guided/266/inside-the-great-pyramid>

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