

2023**11th January: Marta Albert - Vindolanda**

Marta Albert is Deputy Director of Excavations at the Vindolanda Trust. From April to September each year, she is part of a team of professional archaeologists and volunteers who, together, excavate the site of Roman Vindolanda, part of the Hadrian's Wall and Frontiers of the Roman Empire UNESCO World Heritage Property. In this talk, Marta will discuss the latest findings from the 2022 excavation season and answers all those questions about Roman archaeology that you have always been wanting to ask.

8th February: Mr Martin Kenny

Subject - Why Ships Sink

From the Titanic to the Costa Concordia and the final resting place of most ships.

8th March: Miguel - Lindisfarne Gospels & Earliest English Texts

The Lindisfarne Gospels returned to the North - East of England in 2022. One of the most fascinating manuscripts to survive from the early medieval period, the Gospels are well known for including a late-10th century gloss that represents the earliest rendering of these texts in the English Language. Join us in this talk as we explore some of the earliest English writing as we find it today in a variety of contexts and (un)expected places.

12th April: A.G.M.**10th May: Brian Groom - Northerners, from the Ice Age to the Present Day**

Covering 180 million years of northern history in about 40 minutes, with plenty of references to the important role of Newcastle and the north-east. Brian will discuss how the north's people have shaped Britain and the world in unexpected ways. He'll show how the past echoes down the centuries and explore the role the north can play in Britain's future.

14th June: Dr Robert Pullen - Secrets of the Brain

Describes simply the structure of the brain, how nerves work and how different parts of the brain do different things and is an interactive workshop where he gets the audience to test if they are left or right - handed. He also demonstrates to the audience that there are things happening in their own brains that they are not aware of!!

12th July: Dr Pete Edwards - Beginners Guide to the Galaxy

Pete is an experienced science communicator who co-ordinates the outreach programme of the Ogden Centre for Fundamental Physics at Durham University. The aim of the programme is to use the science that we do in the North - East to engage and enthuse school children and the wider community and stimulate their interest.

Never enough time? Need more space? "A Beginner's Guide to the Universe" will lead you on a journey to the furthest reaches of the cosmos. Set your imagination racing as Dr Pete Edwards guides you through the cosmic web to discover the beauty of our Universe.

9th August: Keith Bartlem - Beekeeping

This is a talk about beekeeping and how it has taken over my life. We will look at the history of beekeeping and the journey to modern beekeeping methods, the products from honeybees and how they have been incorporated into our society. We will also discuss some of the myths and legends associated with honeybees. Followed by a few tales of my beekeeping fascination. Technically, I am a Master Beekeeper, although some days I rather doubt it.

13th September: Gary Bankhead - A Walk in the Park

Our incredible adventure when we attempted to summit Cerro Aconcagua, in Argentina. It's one of the 'seven summits' and highest peak in the world outside of the Himalayas. No spoilers but it's worth highlighting that we became trapped for three nights at 6,000m

11th October: Marian Anderson - Pre-Raphaelites in the NE.

8th November: Margaret Bozic - A History of the Quakers Society in Newcastle.

13th December: Christmas Event