

## **BIRMINGHAM AND WARWICKSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY LECTURE PROGRAMME 2014-2015**

**October 7, 2014, 7pm**

Birmingham and Midland Institute, Margaret St.

*'Burton Dassett Southend - excavation of a  
medieval market village - 25 years on'*

by

Nicholas Palmer

A project to complete the long overdue report has offered the chance to reassess the results of the excavations on this SE Warwickshire Feldon village, which was promoted as a market town in the 13th and early 14th centuries, before declining through the later 14th and 15th centuries; the final inhabitants were evicted in 1497, victims of enclosure and the increasing importance of sheep farming. The village site is extensive, and below-ground remains well preserved. This final phase of the project is being funded by English Heritage.



A Burton Dassett tenement during excavation

**Nicholas Palmer** worked for many years as a senior archaeologist at Warwickshire Museum.

**November 4, 2014, 7pm**

Birmingham and Midland Institute, Margaret St.

*'Lords and landscapes – Northfield in the  
middle ages'*

by

Christopher Dyer

Northfield (or rather Weoley) is very well documented, and the speaker has recently discovered a new cache of records in an unlikely archive. Also a surprising amount is known about the rural landscape. The paper addresses the question 'How much impact did lords have on the landscape and society of their manors?' and arrives at its conclusion by interrogating documents, archaeology, place names and maps.



St Laurence Church and the Great Stone Inn,  
Northfield, 1941

**Chris Dyer** was formerly Professor of Medieval History at the University of Birmingham, and latterly Professor of Regional and Local History at the University of Leicester. He has had a long-standing interest in the archaeology of Warwickshire and is a well-known and welcome speaker at the BWAS lectures.

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**BIRMINGHAM AND WARWICKSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
LECTURE PROGRAMME 2014-2015**

**December 2, 2014, 7pm**

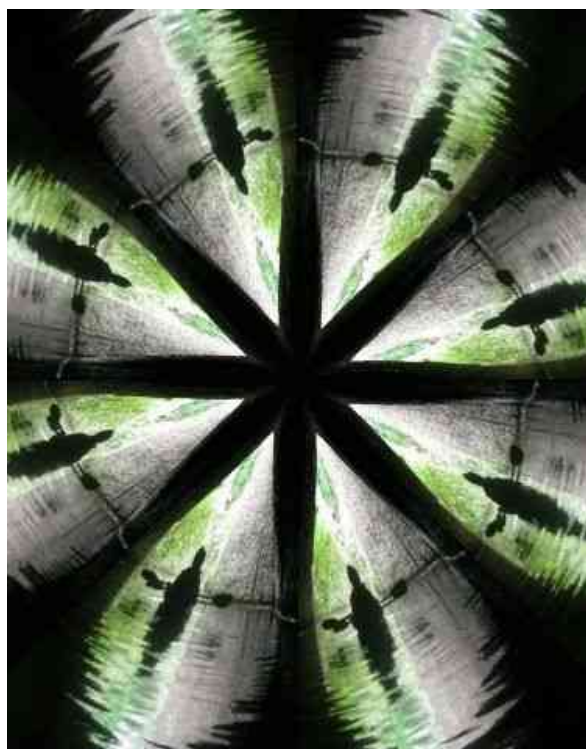
Birmingham and Midland Institute, Margaret St.

*'Paddling into the Past - the archaeological  
view from the canoe'.*

by

Nigel Baker

Nigel will be talking about archaeology in/on/under/around rivers, and the different perspective that being on the water gives the archaeological observer. It is a diverse remit that includes fish weirs, bridge sites, palaeochannels, quays and on, via death on the river - prehistoric and present - to kayaking on floods, urban watercourses and canals, and ending in the culverted river Frome deep under Bristol. Something for everyone!



**Nigel Baker** is both geographer and archaeologist, with a particular interest in urban archaeology and town development, and has authored several works on the subject.

**January 13, 2015, 1pm**

Studio Theatre, Central Library, Birmingham

*'Rediscovering the stained glass of Coventry  
Cathedral'*

by

Jonathan Foyle

Hidden away in storage beneath the new cathedral are over 5,000 fragments of stained glass removed from the higher windows of St Michael's before the devastating bombing of November 1940. Unseen by the public for over 70 years, these precious works of art portray the life of the medieval city in the 15th century.

This outstanding collection, gives us a glimpse of medieval architecture, animals and flowers; the initials of wealthy locals and guilds that funded the church; winged angels that sit side by side with scenes from daily life; Much of the work is considered to be that of Coventry-born John Thornton - the foremost stained glass artist of his time.



**Jonathan Foyle** is Chief Executive of the World Monuments Fund Britain. He lectures widely and has appeared on numerous TV programmes including 'Climbing Great Buildings'.

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## **BIRMINGHAM AND WARWICKSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY LECTURE PROGRAMME 2014-2015**

**February 3, 2015, 7pm**

Birmingham and Midland Institute, Margaret St.

*'Recent investigations of the Trent Valley  
causewayed enclosures: new perspectives on the  
early Neolithic in the West Midlands.'*

by

Paul Garwood

Causewayed enclosures are of great importance in British and European prehistory. The enclosures are thought to have originated in Europe and to have spread quickly to the north and west of mainland Europe and Scandinavia and on to the British Isles. Just 80 sites are known in Britain, the majority lying south of the River Trent. The function of these monuments is open to debate, although it has been suggested that they represent a 'symbolic act'.



Distribution of causewayed enclosures in Britain

**Paul Garwood** is Lecturer in Prehistory at the University of Birmingham. His research centres on the social life and cultural expression of the Neolithic and Bronze Age in Britain. His recent work has focussed on the Medway megalithic monuments and the landscape of Stonehenge.

**March 3, 2015, 7pm**

Birmingham and Midland Institute, Margaret St.

*'New light on the Messines Ridge Model,  
Cannock Chase'*

by

Martin Brown

The model of the Messines Ridge, near Ypres, was made as a training aid for trench warfare in the Great War. The terrain model is roughly the size of a tennis court and was based on aerial photography of the Belgium landscape, taken in advance of a major offensive in 1917.



**Martin Brown** worked for many years as an archaeologist for the MoD. He is particularly interested in the 'archaeology of conflict'. He has been involved with the Messines Model project from the start and with excavation of WWI sites in Belgium and France. You may also have seen him on Time Team!

## **BIRMINGHAM AND WARWICKSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY LECTURE PROGRAMME 2014-2015**

**April 14, 2015, 7pm**

Birmingham and Midland Institute, Margaret St

*'Twenty years of Archaeology in Birmingham'*

by

Mike Hodder

After 20 years as Birmingham City archaeologist, Mike will be retiring in August 2014. He will take this opportunity to present the, by now, frequent number of archaeological interventions in the city and show how they have shaped and changed our understanding of Birmingham.

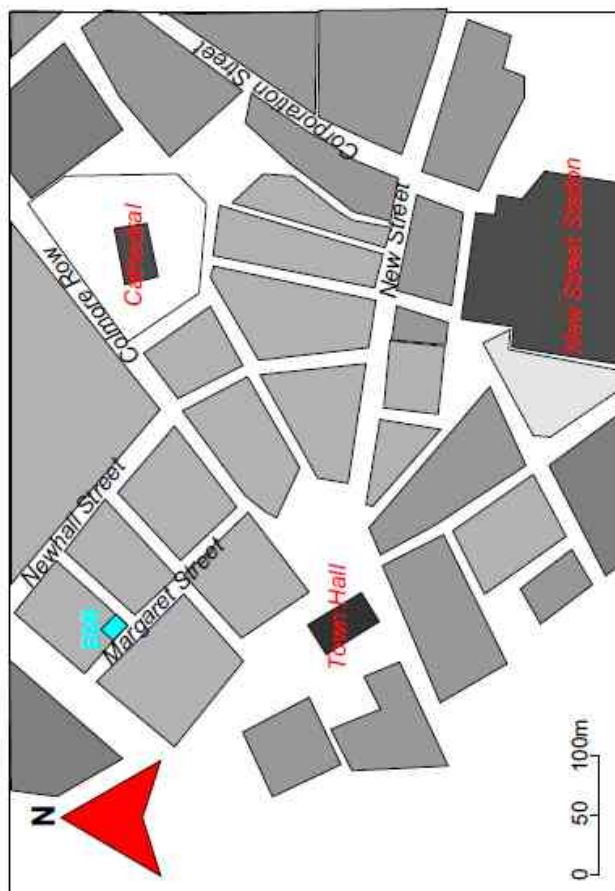


Excavation at Edgbaston Street

**Mike Hodder** has spent his archaeological career in the West Midlands. He is the author of *'Birmingham: the hidden history'* and more recently *'The Archaeology of Sutton Park'*. He is a long-standing member of the BWAS committee and a tireless supporter of archaeology in Birmingham.

### **How to find us:**

Our evening lectures (October-December, February-April) take place in the John Peek Room, Birmingham and Midland Institute, Margaret Street, Birmingham. The BMI is in the city centre, close to the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery and within easy walking distance of New Street and Snow Hill stations.



### **Further Details:**

The evening lectures are free to BWAS members; a small fee of £3.00 is charged to non-members.

The January lunchtime lecture is co-hosted by the Central Library, in the Studio Theatre. The lecture is free to all.

If you are interested in joining the society, please see our website. We also post information about upcoming, lectures and day-schools that may appeal to those interested in archaeology and history.

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