



Langton Matravers Local History and Preservation Society January 2026

www.langtonmatraversmuseum.org

Happy New Year to all ! Our season of talks continues with Jonathan Sells, a local sculptor, telling us about his commissioned work at Wareham. This will be followed by local quarry owner Chris Suttle talking about quarrying – more details nearer the time. The Museum will re-open on April 1st.

Dates for your Diary.

Thursday 19th February, 2026: Stone Mason – a talk by Jonathan Sells.

Thursday 19th March, 2026: Quarrying – a talk by Chris Suttle.

Thursday **16th April**, 2026 (NOTE date change from previous editions): The Deserted Medieval Village at Afflington - a talk by Chris Tripp, 'Dorset Diggers' Community Archaeology Group.

All talks are held at Langton Village Hall at 7.30pm, doors open 7pm. Everyone is welcome to attend: £3 for members, £4 for non-members.

The April talk is shaping up well: we hope to have a report by then on the pottery and other finds from the excavations so far to enable us to date occupation of the Afflington medieval settlement. Mary Sparks, who has been researching the wider context of the manor over time, is preparing maps to show how it might have been during the period when the settlement was active, and it is hoped to include these. Make sure the new date (April 16th) is in your diary.

A small editorial committee are working hard to ensure that all the booklets which the Society publish are up to date and available. The new edition of Jim Bradford's and Reg Saville's excellent work on Langton in WW2 has been updated to include the re-building of St George's School in 2016; the 2nd edition of 'Old Swanwic' will also be available shortly. Booklets are always available to purchase at talks, or you can buy through the website, which lists current availability. www.langtonmatraversmuseum.org

We look forward to seeing you at talks, in the Museum or perhaps at the Afflington dig in the next few months. We still need volunteers: could this be a new part of your life in 2026 ?

Daryle Pearson and Mary Sparks, Publicity and Communications, LMLHPS.