## Introduction



reached the South Pole in good order. They made a number of astronomical observations to confirm that they really had got to 90 degrees South and started their return journey on the 18th. On 17th January, Robert F. Scott found the Norwegian flag and the tent that Amundsen had left – and the rest is history. The story of the race to the Pole remains controv cannot be doubted that Amundsen prepared in all respects. We highlight this drama from 111 years ago as our colleague Maeve has just left for a cruise to Antarctica – where the sunlight this month will be rather better

On 14th December 1911, Amundsen and his polar team

— where the sampler, this month will be rather better than at wet and murky Lossenham. This issue of the newsletter takes a look at the wider range of activities funded by the Janus Foundation (the principal source of funding for the Lossenham Project), most of which do have either a connection with Lossenham or Kent, or are designed to provided benefits to the local community here, for instance with guest lectures or special performances. Wishing you a very happy end to the year and a rapid return of the sunlight to our latitude, Åke Nilson Chairman of the Janus Foundatio

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#### Artist Statement – Louise Pettifer

### (Louise will be the Visiting Artist at Lossenham for 2023) My work is inspired by my love and appreciation for the natural world. I am delighted to have been offered the opportunity to work at Lossenham and I'm looking forward to learning about the layers of history, as well as the plant life and biodiversity of this intriguing landscape. I'm excited to see how Lossenham develops the narrative in my work over the next year.



I was formerly artist in residence for the National Trust at Sissinghurst Castle Garden, making work which celebrated the seasons, along with the planting, structure, beauty and history of this fascinating garden More recently, I have developed a body of work around the concepts of biodiversity and rewilding. In my work I am alluding to the interconnectedness of the natural world; the system which supports our soil, water, plants, insects, brids, wildlife, and of course, ourselves. I was grateful to receive funding for this project from Arts Council England.

I studied for a BA in Textiles at UCA Farnham, specialising in silk-screen printing, before completing an MA in Drawing at Camberwell, University of the Arts, London. I work in a combination of drawing, printing, printmaking and occasionally gliding. Hove to build layers in my work, to describe the complexity and intricate balance I see in the natural world.

- 儕. Wet Sites

More information about my work can be found at: www.louis

#### nt archaeological progress has been hampered by the amount of rainfall. It proved impossible to carry

# out any systematic field walking or metal detecting at Castle Toll as planned, because of the combination of rain and ground conditions. We will continue to keep an eye on both weather and ground conditions and will schedule the metal detecting as soon as conditions make it feasible. We need both ground that is not so

wet we can't move across it (though some moisture makes for better detection depth) and the vegetation reduced to very short grass; you just can't do it effectively once it reaches more than ankle deep. If grazing is possible at the moment, that would be a great benefit





by the Janus Foundation.

when they pulled the shaft out!





Zooarchaeology Updates Our very own Zooarchaeologist, Maeve Moorcroft, has joined the Sheffield Zooarchaeology Research Group, where she will be supporting Prof. Umberto Albarelia while he writes his new book titled "A History of Britain in 50 Animals", a project funded by a Leverhulme Mayor Research fellowship. Maeve's position is funded

Lossenham and the Rother

She is also a member of the Zooarchaeology Team in York, where she is finsihing the work already started on digitally cataloguing and photographing the unique collection of pathological animal bones that were left by 8 daker & Brothwal, authors of the important book "Animal Diseases in Archaeology".

The photo shows bones from a horse which was involved in a trotting cart accident, where the shaft of the cart went into its shoulder joint. The shaft was removed but the horse kept getting worse and at Post Mortem they found this huge new bone growth due to the brass tip of the cart shaft being left behind in the joint



# last September, here is your chance to look at the exhibition banners. The banners can be found at

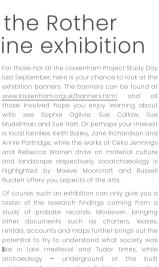


extended-monologue piece entitled Breathless about the everyday realities of hoarding. Since April 2022, she has worked tirelessly to bring this story to life on stage at both the Theatre Royal Plymouth and the Edinburgh Fringe and has experienced an upwards trajectory that is truly extraordinary. Since the first two runs of the piece, Laura has be Since the first two runs of the piece, Laura has been interviewed for numerous radio shows, as well as being interviewed and featured in print publications such as The Herald and Vogue. Following her run at the Fringe, Laura received a Fringe First Award for the piece, as well as several glowing reviews. As a result of its roaring success in Scotland, Laura was asked to bring Breathless to the Soho Theatre in London for a run in early 2023 (Tue 7th – Sat 18th Feb 2023, 3.00pm, 7.00pm), and has short runs planned for Bath and at the Bristol Old Vice as well (dates & times TBC). And lastly fur by no means least!) Jaura has sequered a Bath and at the Bristol Old Vic as well (dates & times TBC).

And lastly (but by no means least)) Laura has secured a coveted spot in Theatre 59e59's line-up of Brits Off Broadway showcase and will be bringing Breathless to New York City in the Spring of 2023. Brits Off Broadway is an annual season showcasing work by UK writers and producers, inviting a handful of exceptional productions from small-mid scale companies representing the breadth of the British independent theater sector to present their work in NYC. The show will run for three weeks, with a week of rehearsal prior. This showcase very rarely

with a week of rehearsal prior. This showcase very rarely features extended monologue-style pieces, opting instead for plays with larger casts, so to be one of seven shows chosen for next year (and for this to be Laura's very first full-length play) is an extraordinary achievement.

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like in late medieval and Tudor times, while archaeology — underground or the built environment gives a more holistic perspective when added to land/townscape studies. Consequently, the wills group, among its next projects, is hoping to work with Tenterden Museum towards its proposed exhibition in 2024 that will offer ideas about what this Cinque Port town (and its hinterland) was like for people living there in early modern times. there in early modern times Centre for Kent History and Heritage



# Dates for the Diary

December 2022 Tuesday 6th to Friday 9th: Excavation at Lossenham

lote: these excav<mark>ation</mark> dates a<mark>re subje</mark>ct to weather conditions. Please make sure to sign-up in good time so we can plan our activities effectively.)