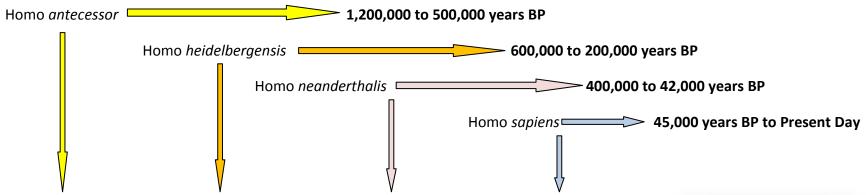
## THE PALEOLITHIC AGE IN CHATTERIS

The Old Stone Age; 1,000,000 to 12,000 Years BP (Before Present)



Earliest evidence of human species in Europe;

Human footprints found at Happisburgh, Norfolk 980,000 years BP

Oldest manmade flint implement found at Happisburgh 800,000 years BP

Oldest manmade flint implement found in Chatteris 780,000 years BP Thought to have lived in Europe 600 > 200,000 BP

Skull found at Heidelburg, Germany, skeletons found in Spain, more in Greece and France

Possibly the last common ancestor of Neanderthals and modern humans

Boxgrove, Sussex, 500,000
BP core flake flints

Two 500,000 > 250,000 BP hand axes from Chatteris

Known to have lived in Europe and Britain from 400,000 > 42,000 BP

First evidence of controlled use of fire

First evidence of animal skin clothing & spears, burials & adornment

Coexistence of
Neanderthal and
Homo sapiens
45,000 > 42,000 BP
DNA evidence of
interbreeding

Enhanced flint knapping skills – two Levallois flakes from Chatteris Greatly improved stone knapping and polishing skills, use of other stone.

First appearance of composite (handled) tools and weapons

Pottery used 18,000 BP in China

Rock art, carvings and musical instruments appeared

Population of Britain by 10,000 BP approx 1,200

Ovate, flat, flint hand axe from Chatteris



Martinez Alvarez, J.L. 2005, Wikimedia.

Model of a female Homo antecessor practicing cannibalism.